FANTASY HERO

fantasy hero

FINAL SUMMER ISSUE NO. 4

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Editor:William Dubay
Co-editor:Marty Arbunich
Contributers:Steven Kales, Fred Landesman, Bill Shores Marty Arbunich

The NEW CAPT AMERICA & RICK?

FANTASY HERO #4, Summer 1964 issue. Final issue by William B. Dubay: editor. The FANTASY HERO is an amateur non profit comic fanzine concerning super hero and comic magazine interest in general. This and all back issues available for 40¢ each from Wm.B. Dubay, 58 A Chenery Street, San Francisco, California

tales from the tomb !!!

It's hard to break up with an old friend. I didn't realize this when I decided to discontinue Fantasy Hero. I keep wanting to start work on the next issue, but I have to remind myself---there will be no next issue of Fantasy Hero. The issue you are now reading, is the last issue of F.H. Marty or myself will ever publish. There are many reasons why Fantasy Hero has to be discontinued only one short year after it began. Marty will explain most of these reasons in his editorial, so I needn't go into detail here.

I'd like to thank all of you readers, who for the last four issues have purchased, read and criticized F.H. It has helped both Marty and myself, tremendously---for our future efforts as professional comic workers, MAYBE. Comic Fandom is the only organization I know ofthat can help a fellow improve, and someday become the maker of a real comic book. It is a lot better for two-hundred comic fans to tell you they dislike your work---and for you to improve, than have only your friends see your work and tell you it's teriffic---so you can keep making the same mistakes. I know that I speak for Marty, as well as myself, by saying that you have helped us improve tremendously. Already one of the professional comic companies has asked me for samplesof my work, for consideration as one of their illustrators. I only hope that when I do send samples, I do not make you lose your faith in you and get rejected. Over the past year I have gained much experience in the art field. I have held a job as an advertising artist, as well as comic-cartoonist. I only hope that someday I will be good enough to obtain a job in comic book art.

There have been a lot of good fanzines coming out lately. Whether or not my personal recommendation means anything or not, I'll recommend some of the best.

On top of the heap is Bill White's BATMANIA, followed closely by the STRIPPER. You've seen lots of Bill's work in the past, but these two new fanzines of his are better than anything he has published before.

John Chamber's FANtastic is one heckava improved fanzine. If you've read earlier issues of FAN, multiply the quality by 100 X and you've got the NEW FANTASTIC. John has some pretty big ideas for future zines, and future issues of FAN, so keep your eye on him. This is one fan that's really going to be on TOP before long.

STAR: SUPER HERO---another newcomer. I really don't know what it's going to be like. But I have seen pages from it. There's going to be a lot of good art and writing in this one. Keep your eye on it for future issue. In it will be the long awaited origin of The SURFER, told in splendor by the King of the Surf, Prince of the Shading Plates, Fastest Draw in the West, That Lil' Ole Surf-Master---me. It's gonna be litho---it's gonna be good.

MEN of MYSTERY by Jeff Gelb and his horde of hovering fanzines is another zine you'de better pick up on. In time, it could very well prove to be comicdom's TOP

mimeographed fan-publication.

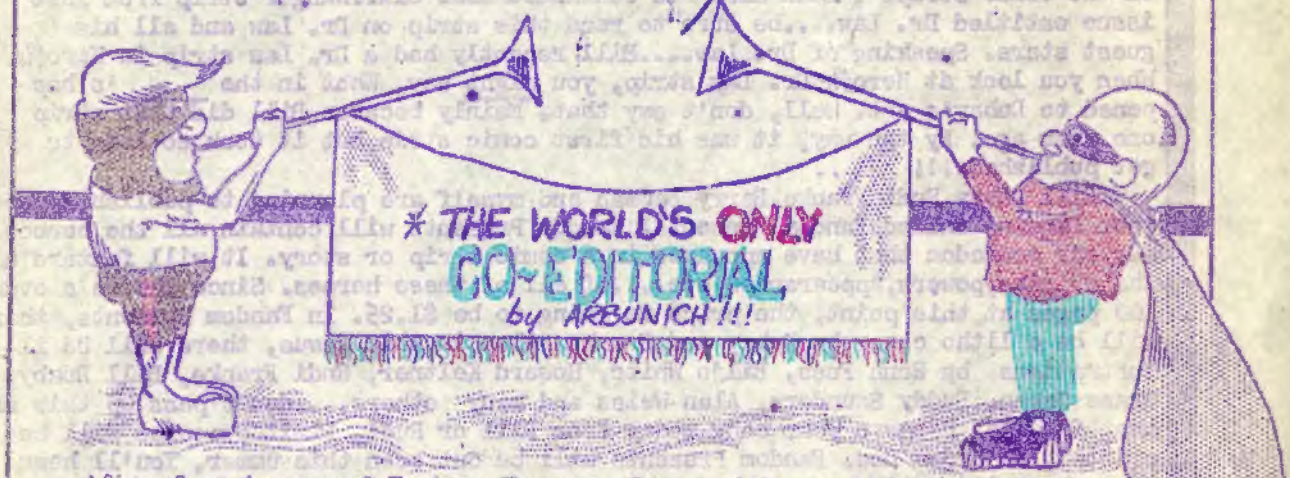
Because I dislike bragging, I'm not going to tell you how good fandom's first newspaper is going to be. The VOICE of COMICDOM, Fandom's first and only litho-graphed newspaper will contain continous strips by Rudi Franke, Larry Kopf, Bill White, Tom Conroy, Mike Vosburg, Roger Brand, Romm Foss, Al Kuhfeld, and myself. Not to mention many pictures of fans, and professionals. Oh yes, there'll be news items too. It'll be a monthly publicationat 20¢ per issue. No subscriptions will be accepted for more than five issues in advance. With VoC and TCR, Comicdom is going to be overflooded with well-informed people.

There is one thing I might mention about VoC. It is a continuation from Fan-tasy Heroes' Hangout #1. FHH #1 is ready NOW! Since this editorial was written much after Harry's was finished, his information may prove slightly misleading. VoC is ready NOW, and will be sent out soon. It's sure to become the no. #1 fandom publication before long!!!

FANDOM PRESENTS is also ready NOW! See details about it in the following editorial, and the advertising section of this magazine. It is the first and fore-most fanzine where EVERYBODY has a hand in.

Well, I sure hope you miss Fantasy Hero when it's gone. I know I'll remem-ber it, and I hope you will too. It's been a ball publishing it --and I hope you have enjoyed reading it. Well-I guess it's So-Long for now anyway. See you in the future---

Bill Dubay



After four issues of Fantasy Hero, we leave with a sudden farewell!!! We are not actually saying farewell to comicdom but to Fantasy Hero. Fantasy Hero will still exist within the bonds of another fine fanzine, Heroes' Hangout. Fan-tasy Hero and Heroes' Hangout will soon unite to bring comicdom a new but long existing fanzine, Fantasy Heroes' Hangout. Fantasy Heroes' Hangout #1 will soon be published(about a month). Some of you fanzine readers may think that we are making a foolish mistake by joining with another zine. But we are not making a foolish mistake! Look at all the things that we will be gaining .....double the talent will be supplied; Bill Dubay and Rudi Franke will be joining talents to bring yiu twice the fine work in each ish of FHH. Harry Bauman and myself will do our best to supply you readers with the quantity and quality of articles pres-ently used in Fantasy Hero and Heroes' Hangout. So, It is not a foolish mistake to join two fanzines together but a real aid to both parties!!

Since this is the last issue of Fantasy Hero, I would like to, at this time, thank all the fanzines and publications that have supported Fantasy Hero in the past. The following are a list of fanzines and publications that I would like to thank for their kind words towards Fantasy Hero..... Masquerader,Alter-Ego,Star Studded Comics,Heroes' Hangout, Comic-collector,FANtastic,Mask and Cape,Dateline comicdom, The Comic Reader,Hero,The New Komix Illustrated,Comic Hero, The New Action Hero, The Ace Comics Club Newsletter and the NAMPC(amateur movie club), as well as all the fans and readers that have supported FH in the past four issues. I wish I could thank each one of you with a shake of the hand, but that is almost impossible....thanx angain for your kind and loyal cooperation.

This issue of Fantasy Hero has plenty of articles and only one strip than the usual two. The articles are as folloes; Fred Landesman has an excellent article on his trip to DC, Steve Kelez presents his usual Heroes of the Screen. This issue Steve has investigated deep into the Dick Tracy Serial. There is also a fine article on all of comicdom's pro revivals which my good friend Bill Shores wrote. I have found some information printed by King Features and lengthened it into an article called"King, the Prince of the Comic Strips". Bill also has continued that cliffhanger strip from last issue entitled Dr. Law....be sure to read this strip on Dr. Law and all his guest stars. Speaking of Dr. Law....Bill recently had a Dr. Law strip in Hero#4. When you look at Hero#4 Dr. Law strip, you might say, What in the _____'s happened to Dubay's art. Well, don't say that. Mainly because Bill did that strip one year ago. By the way, it was his first comic strip but it took so long to get published!!!!

Bill Dubay,Rudi Franke,Barry Bauman and myself are planning to publish a one-shot fanzine called Fandom Presents. Fandom Presents will contain all the heroes of amateur comicdom that have appeared in a comic strip or story. It will feature all the origins,powers,appearances etc....of all of these heroes. Since theere's over 100 pages at this point, the price is going to be $1.25. In Fandom Presents, there will be a litho cover by Dubay and Franke. Also in this issue, there will be illustrations by Ronn Foss, Biljo White, Howard Keltner, Rudi Franke, Bill Duaby, Grass Green, Buddy Saunders, Alan Weiss and many others....don't pass up this one-shot fanzine. Reserve your copy today from Bill or Rudi. Limited copies will be printed, so order now. Fandom Presents will be out soon this summer. You'll hear more about it as time passes on.

I sincerely hope that you do enjoy this final issue of Fantasy Hero. And I also hope to see you on the mailing list of Fantasy Heroes' Hangout...See you in FHH!!!

Marty

a visit to:

by FRED LANDESMAN

ILLUSTRATED BY: B. Dubay

I felt a bit nervous entering the high fourty story building on Lexington Avenue, even though I had been there before. I guess I was nervous because I never went to DC alone and never to get some exclusive interviews.

Upon reaching the eigth floor, I told the secretary that I had an appointment with Murray Boltinoff. She told me to be seated. I qrickly obeyed and within three minutes a short man of about fourty, with a pipe, opened the door into the outer office. We exchanged greetings, and he then led me into a long corridor. The first door on the right was open, and I was led into it.

The room had three desks, but only two were teeming with activity. Later I learned that the third desk belonged to the late Lawrence Nadler.

I then met a tall man who was seated at the first desk. He introduced himself as George Kashdan, editor of such comics as BLACKHAWK, RIP HUNTER, and many issues of SHOWCASE and BRAVE and the BOLD.

Mr. Kashdan went back to his desk as Murray Boltinoff did the same. As I sat next to Mr. Boltinoff, I opened my notebook and started asking him some questions.

When I had just about finished asking the questions, a man of about thirty five entered the office. George Kashdan later told me that this was Bob Haney, of BLACKHAWK, SHOWCASE and BATMAN fame. I asked Mr. Haney some on-the-spur-of-the moment questions, and took his picture!

As Bob Haney left, a tall dignified man with a crew-cut entered. Mr. Kashdan and Mr. Boltinoff cheerfully approached him. They told him the usual joke, that I was a spy from MARVEL, because I was always asking questions about the circulation. The man was J. S. Leibowitz, the publisher and brains of NATIONAL COMICS! I asked him various questions,

MURRAY BOLTINOFF -- DC ed.

among which some were about the circulation of various comics.

Just as I had finished, a man with a Mitch Miller type beard stepped in. I recognized the man from a previous trip. He was Arnold Drake, of BLACKHAWK, CHALLENGERS, DOOM PATROL, SPACE RANGER!!! I took his picture, and asked some questions about his comic career, and about his latest movie, The FLESH EATERS!!!

After Mr. Leibowitz and Mr. Drake left, I took a few pictures of Mr. Boltinoff, and Mr. Kashdan.

Mr. Boltinoff left, and a few min-

MURPHY ANDERSON
DC's best "HAWKMAN!!!"
FRANCE HERRON
the real 'Mr. TOMAHAWK !!!'
ARNOLD DRAKE
"CHIEF BLACKHAWK !!!"
GEORGE KASHDAN
"the BRAVE AND THE BOLD"

utes later returned with France Herron, also TOMAHAWK, and BLACKHAWK. I gave up my seat to Mr. Herron and sat next to Mr. Kashdan.

Mr. Boltinoff took out some Tomahawk artwork and started arguing with Mr. Herron about some gills on a fish.

Mr. Kashdan left the office for a minute, and I quickly looked at some preliminary drawings for a future cover of Blackhawk Comics.

Afterwards, I left their office, and walked down the long corridor where I turned left at some big files which contained all artwork from past issues of DC comics. I walked into the big production room. It was very quiet, even though there were about ten men in it. I walked over to a man who was correcting mistakes for a future Jimmy Olsen Annual. He told me that the regular DC artist recieves $70.00 a page for artwork!!! After a few more questions, I left him and walked over to one of the artists, whom I distinguished as MURPHY ANDERSON, by his vivid artwork!!!

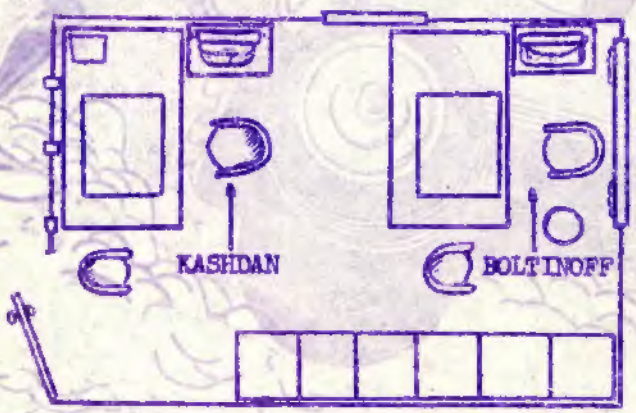
Murphy, is a six footer, about thirty-five. I watched him pencil a future HAWKMAN story. As soon as he paused, I started asking him questions about the JUSTICE IEAGUE of AMERICA and some of his early works in comics. I took his picture and watched him draw for ten minutes, before I left him.

I left the production room and went to the files, gazing at them I saw original SUPERMAN, DOOM PATROL, ECLIPSO, and J.L.A. artwork!!! Suddenly a man came out of the office directly opposite the original artwork. He was a tall, young thin man, whom I later found out to be Robert Kanigher, editor of the DC army magazines.

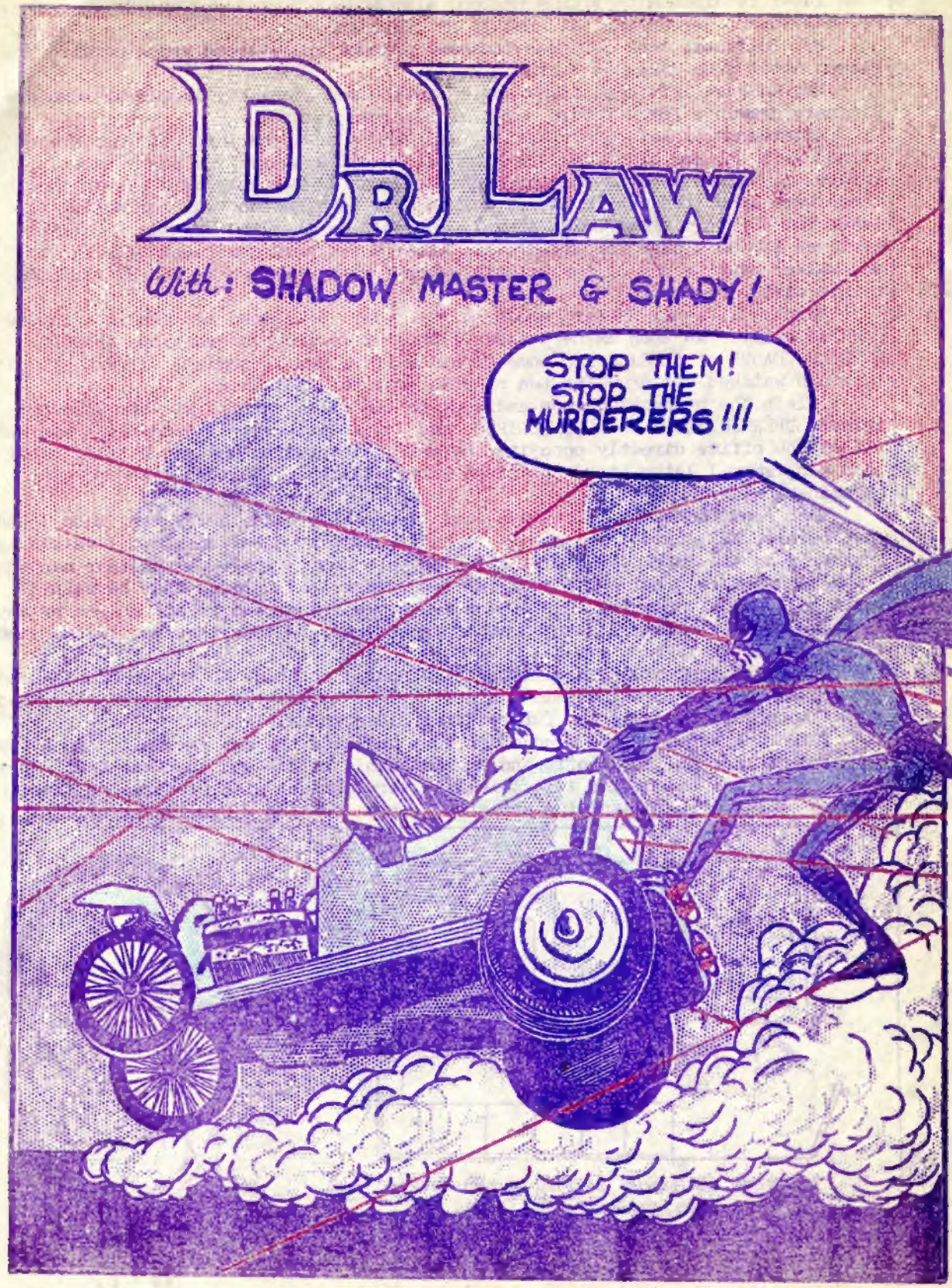
Then from the same office, out came a partially-bald, hefty man, whom I had met before, Mr. Julius Schwartz!!! I had no time to question him. I walked further down the corridor until I spied an open door. There was another man whom I had seen before, inside the room, Mort Weisenger. I noticed that he wasn't busy, so I quickly ran in. His office is very spacious and is not shared by anyone else. Once inside, I started asking questions, he then interrogated me, and allowed me to photograph him.

It was nearing 4:00 and quitting time, but I ran back to the production room and looked at some foreign comics, old DC's, and a few stories not yet published yet. Among which one was the future Jimmy Olsen Annual!!!

I took pictures of the production room and bade the men farewell. On my way out, I went into Mr. Boltinoff, and Mr. Kashdan's office and thanked them. They acknowledged the thanks and I left feeling very content with pictures of five editors, three writers, and two artists.....not counting a publisher!!!!!!!!!!!!



Offices of Murray Boltinoff and George Kashdan, DC editors!!!!!

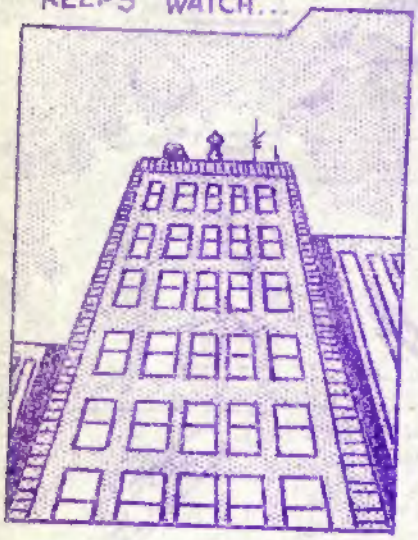

DR LAW
With: SHADOW MASTER & SHADY!
STOP THEM! STOP THE MURDERERS!!!

+ INTRODUCING: SHADY!

DR LAW

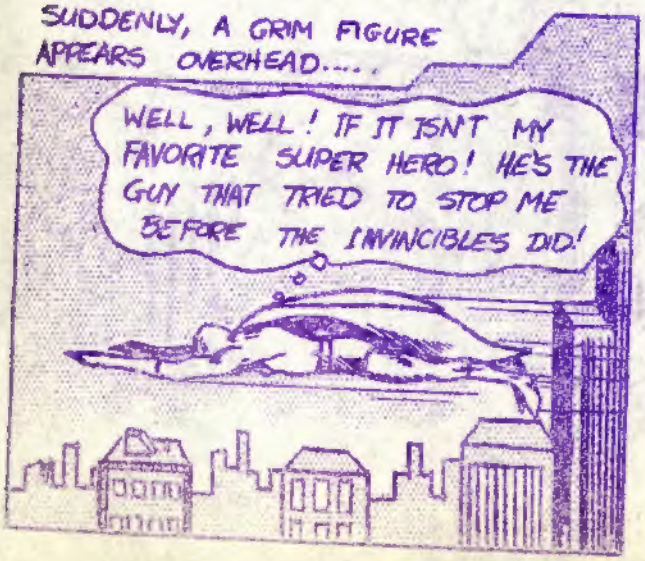
by BILL DUBAY

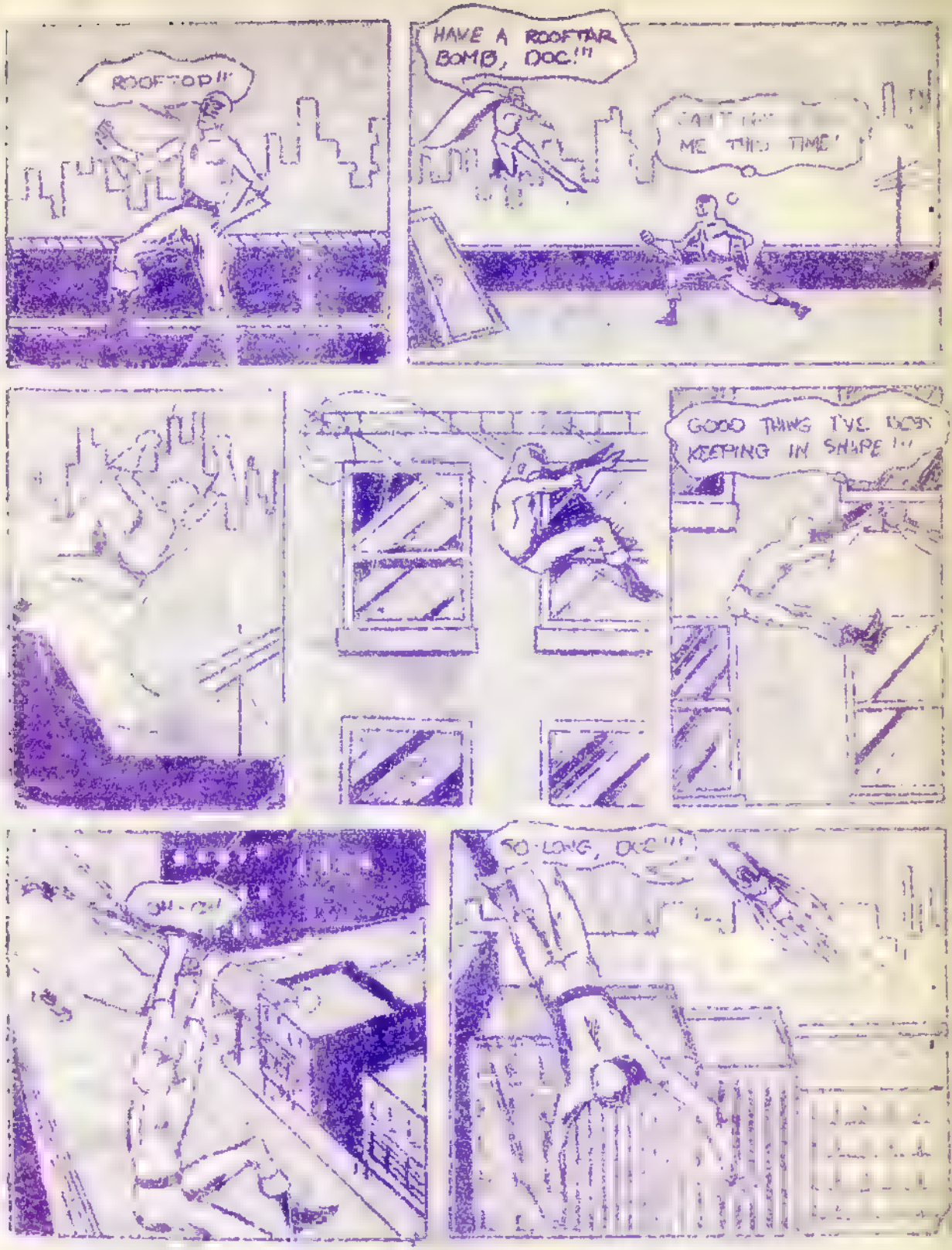
HIGH ON THE ROOFTOPS OF A LARGE, MIDWESTERN CITY, AN ALERT FIGURE KEEPS WATCH...



EVER SINCE ROOFTOP ESCAPED FROM PRISON, I'VE BEEN ON CONSTANT WATCH! IF I CAN CATCH HIM THIS TIME, I'LL PROVE MYSELF A REAL SUPER HERO!!!

SUDDENLY, A GRIM FIGURE APPEARS OVERHEAD.....




ROOFTOP!!!
HAVE A ROOFTAR BOMB, DOC!!!
GOOD THING I'VE BEEN KEEPING IN SHAPE!!!
SO LONG, DOC!!!

DR LAW PLUNGES TO HIS DEATH, A DARK FIGURE APPEARS ON THE STREET BELOW. A SHADOW MASTER!

IT'S DR LAW, MY FELLOW INVINCIBLES MEMBER! HE'LL BE KILLED UNLESS I CHANGE HIM INTO A SHADOW.

McDO HOUS LOAI

SHADOW MASTER TAKES CAREFUL AIM, WASTING NO TIME WHATSOEVER..

BLAM

DR. LAW HEARS A THUNDEROUS NOISE, AS THE BEAM HITS HIM! THERE IS AN EXPLOSION AS HE SEEMS TO BE TELEPORTED THROUGH TIME AND SPACE!

AN EXPLOSION?

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?

WHERE AM I ??!

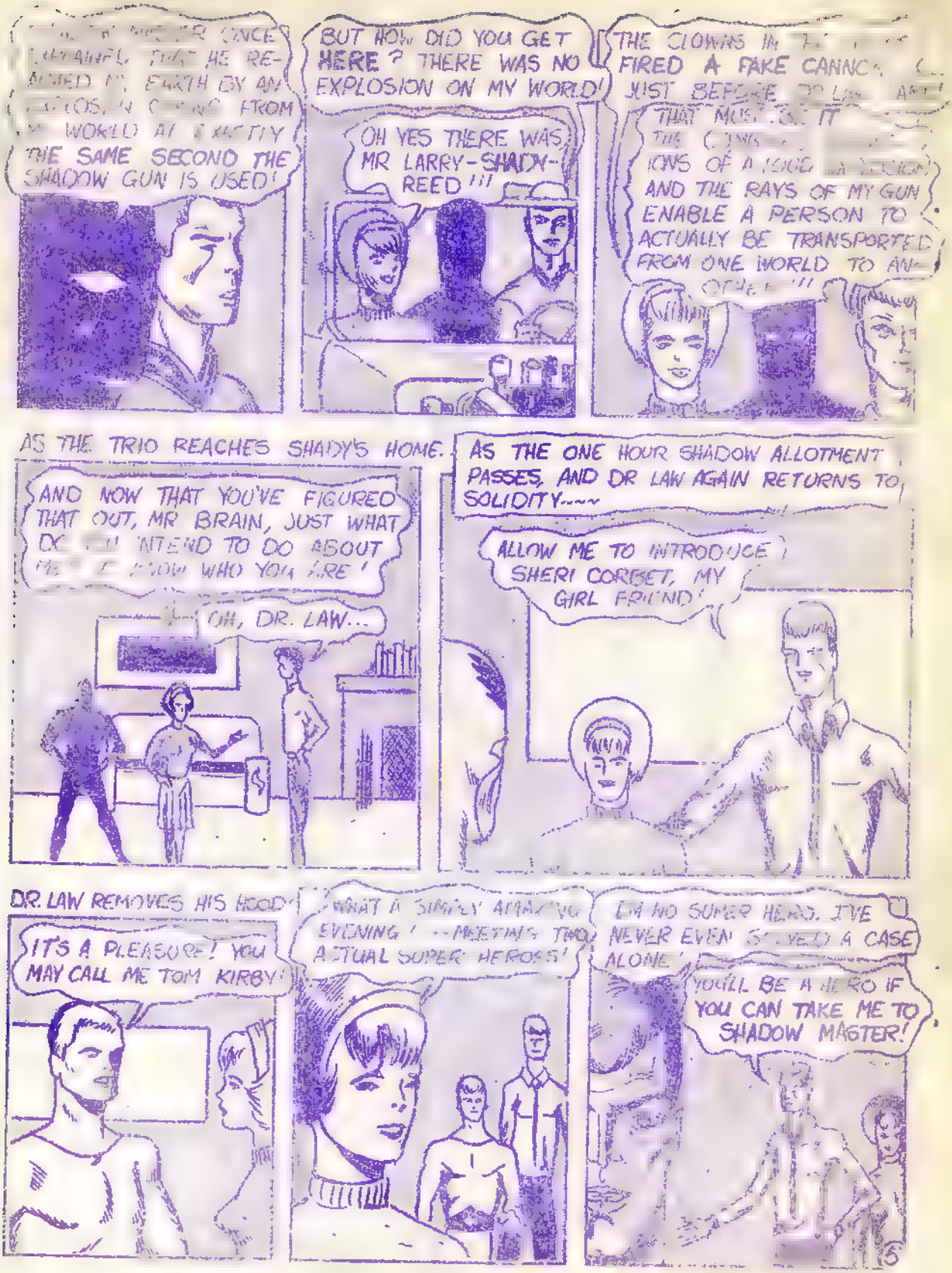
WHEN HIS HEAD CLEARS, THE NOW SHADOWIZED DR. LAW COMPREHENDS WHAT HAPPENED!!! AS HE LOOKS UP..

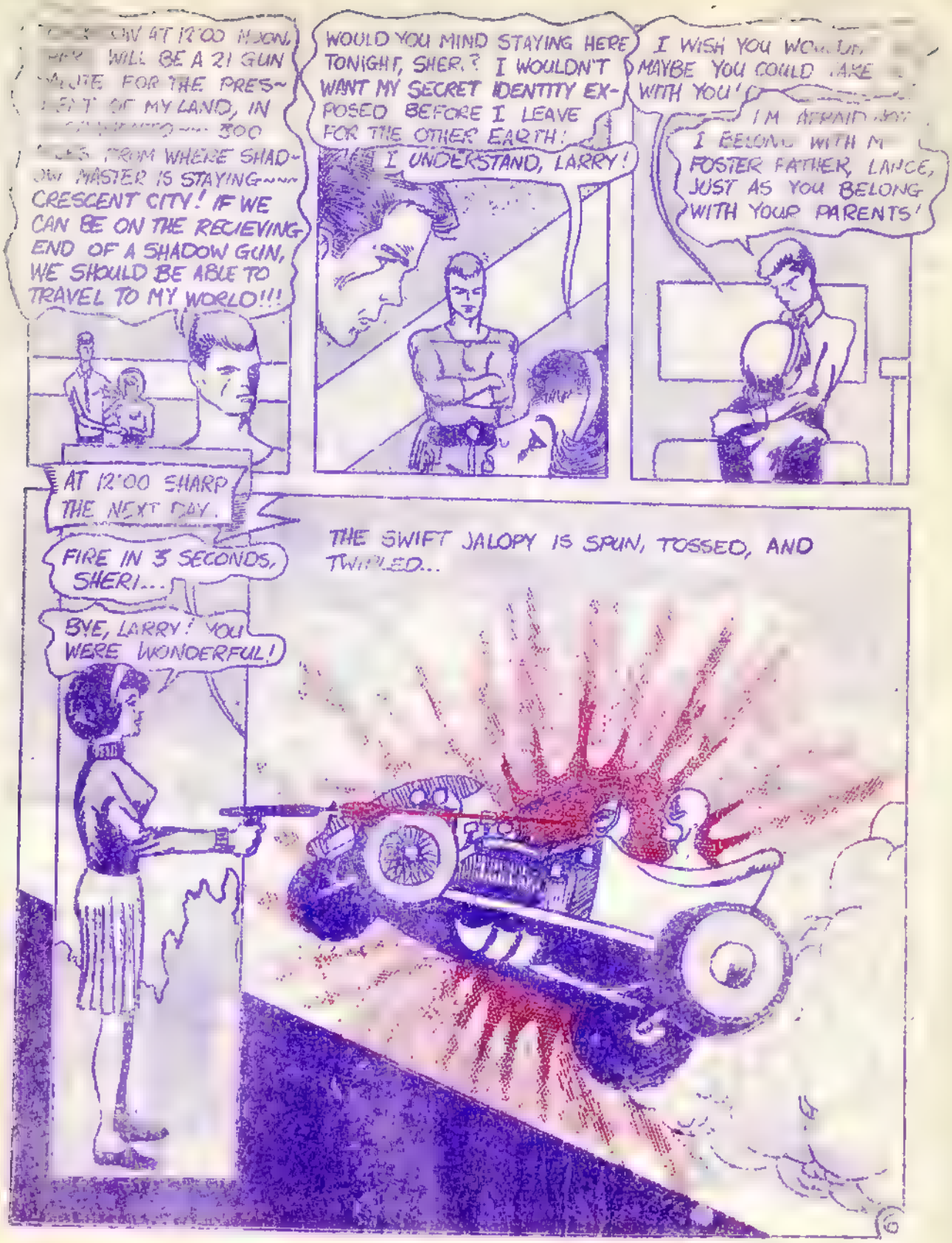
UHHHH...WHERE AM I?

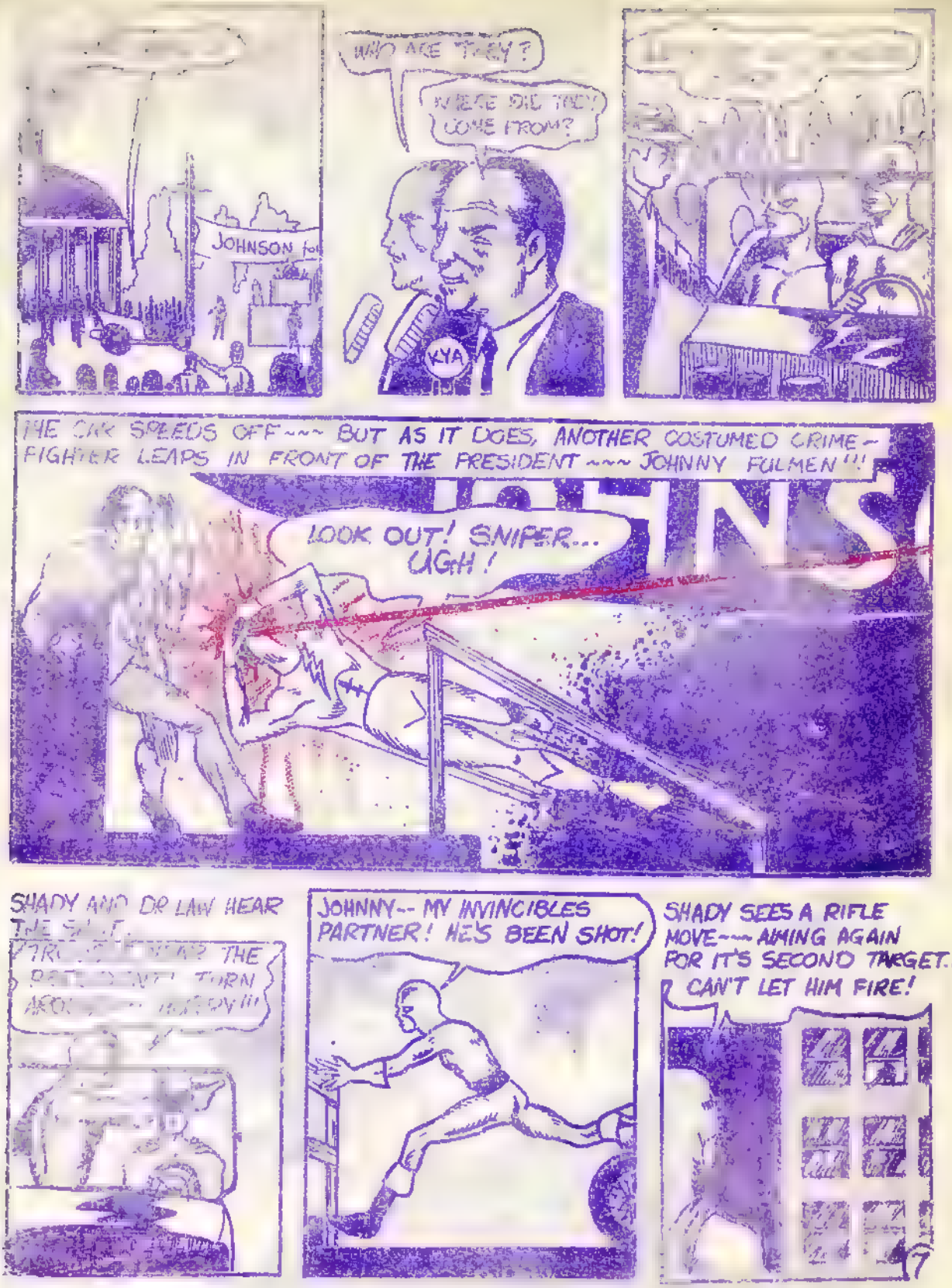
PEOPLE AROUND ME!

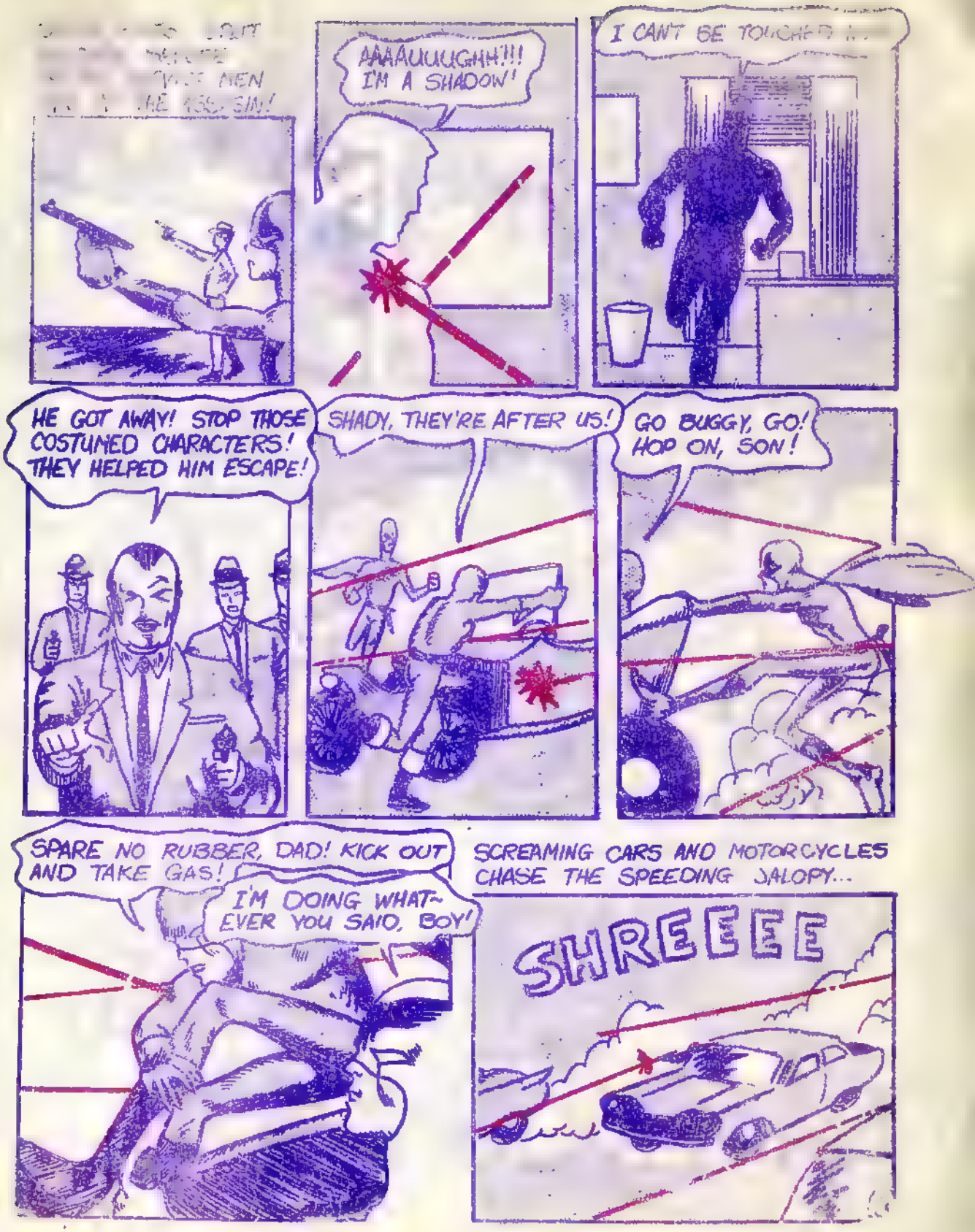
A CIRCUS ???

3


THE SAME SECOND THE SHADOW GUN IS USED!
BUT HOW DID YOU GET HERE? THERE WAS NO EXPLOSION ON MY WORLD!
OH YES THERE WAS MR LARRY-SHADY-REED!!!
THE CLOWNS IN
FIRED A FAKE CANNON
JUST BEFORE
THAT MUST BE IT
AND THE RAYS OF MY GUN ENABLE A PERSON TO ACTUALLY BE TRANSPORTED FROM ONE WORLD TO ANOTHER!!!
AS THE TRIO REACHES SHADY'S HOME.
AND NOW THAT YOU'VE FIGURED THAT OUT, MR BRAIN, JUST WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO ABOUT ME NOW WHO YOU ARE!
OH, DR. LAW...
AS THE ONE HOUR SHADOW ALLOTMENT PASSES, AND DR LAW AGAIN RETURNS TO SOLIDITY....
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE SHERI CORBET, MY GIRL FRIEND!
DR. LAW REMOVES HIS HOOD
IT'S A PLEASURE! YOU MAY CALL ME TOM KIRBY!
WHAT A SIMPLY AMAZING EVENING! --MEETING TWO ACTUAL SUPER HEROES!
I'M NO SUPER HERO. I'VE NEVER EVEN SOLVED A CASE ALONE!
YOU'LL BE A HERO IF YOU CAN TAKE ME TO SHADOW MASTER!

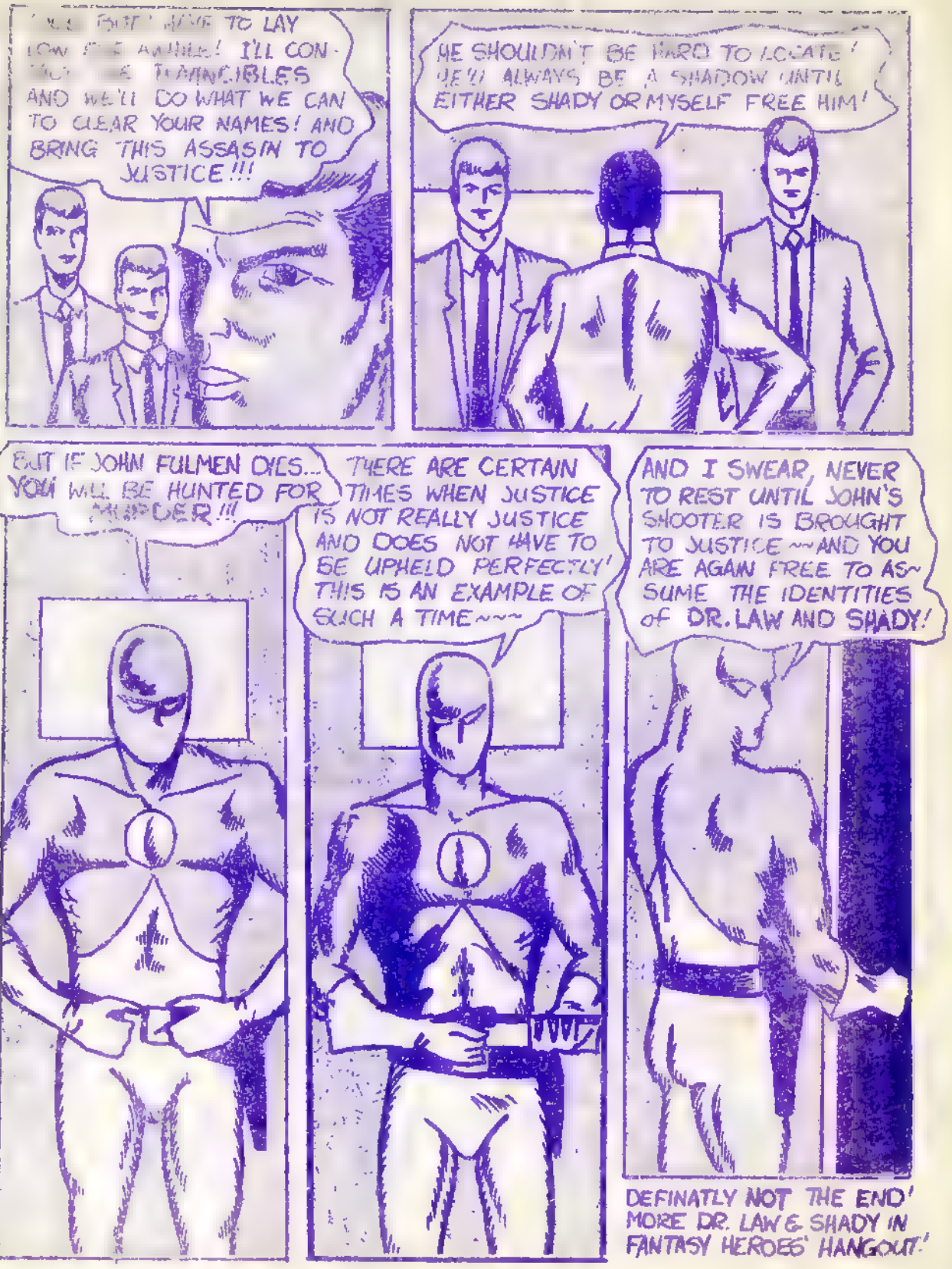

[illegible] AT 12'00 NOON, [illegible] WILL BE A 21 GUN SALUTE FOR THE PRESIDENT OF MY LAND, IN [illegible] 300 [illegible] FROM WHERE SHADOW MASTER IS STAYING---- CRESCENT CITY! IF WE CAN BE ON THE RECIEVING END OF A SHADOW GUN, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TRAVEL TO MY WORLD!!!
WOULD YOU MIND STAYING HERE TONIGHT, SHER? I WOULDN'T WANT MY SECRET IDENTITY EXPOSED BEFORE I LEAVE FOR THE OTHER EARTH!
I UNDERSTAND, LARRY!
I WISH YOU WOULD, MAYBE YOU COULD TAKE [illegible] WITH YOU!
I'M AFRAID NOT. I BELONG WITH MY FOSTER FATHER, LANCE, JUST AS YOU BELONG WITH YOUR PARENTS!
AT 12'00 SHARP THE NEXT DAY.
FIRE IN 3 SECONDS, SHER!...
BYE, LARRY! YOU WERE WONDERFUL!
THE SWIFT JALOPY IS SPUN, TOSSED, AND TWIRLED...


JOHNSON for
WHO ARE THEY?
WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
KYA
THE CAR SPEEDS OFF~~~ BUT AS IT DOES, ANOTHER COSTUMED CRIME-FIGHTER LEAPS IN FRONT OF THE PRESIDENT ~~~ JOHNNY FULMEN!!!
LOOK OUT! SNIPER... UGH!
SHADY AND DR LAW HEAR THE SHOT...
JOHNNY-- MY INVINCIBLES PARTNER! HE'S BEEN SHOT!
SHADY SEES A RIFLE MOVE~~~ AIMING AGAIN FOR IT'S SECOND TARGET...
CAN'T LET HIM FIRE!

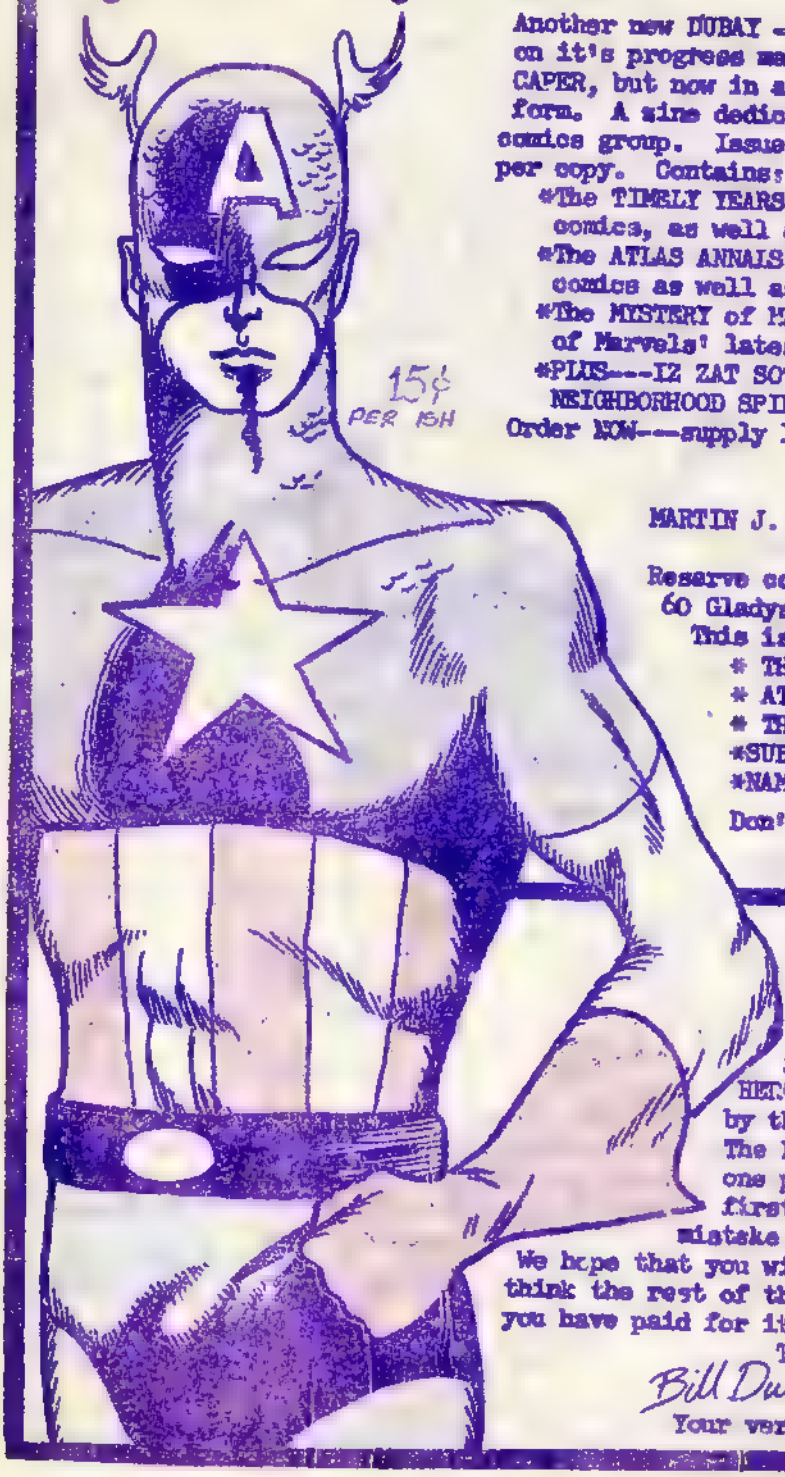

AAAAUUUGHH!!! I'M A SHADOW!
I CAN'T BE TOUCHED
HE GOT AWAY! STOP THOSE COSTUMED CHARACTERS! THEY HELPED HIM ESCAPE!
SHADY, THEY'RE AFTER US!
GO BUGGY, GO! HOP ON, SON!
SPARE NO RUBBER, DAD! KICK OUT AND TAKE GAS!
I'M DOING WHATEVER YOU SAID, BOY!
SCREAMING CARS AND MOTORCYCLES CHASE THE SPEEDING JALOPY...
SHREEEE

CAN'T THIS ROD GO ANY FASTER?
I WISH IT COULD! WE'RE DOING 130 NOW!!!
THE CAR SWINGS AROUND AND INTO BUSHES... HITS A ROCK AND OVER...
JUMP!
RUN!
SEVERAL MILES AWAY, WHEN THEY ARE SURE THEY ARE SAFE...
BETTER SWITCH CLOTHES! IT'LL BE ROUGHER IF WE DON'T!
WE'RE A GOOD TWO MILES FROM ROSEVILLE! WE CAN CATCH A BUS TO CRESCENT CITY THERE!
IN THE ROSEVILLE BUS TERMINAL...
THERE'S SECRET SERVICE MEN ALL OVER THE PLACE! SEPERATE, LARRY! THEY'LL BE LOOKING FOR TWO PEOPLE! NOT ONE!!!

I THOUGHT MY SIZE HAD GIVEN ME AWAY, BACK THERE! I'VE NEVER BEEN SO AFRAID IN MY LIFE!!!
JUST BETWEEN US.. ME EITHER!
UPON ARRIVAL IN CRESCENT CITY...
WE'RE FAIRLY SAFE NOW! SHADOW'S STAYING AT THE CITY HOTEL.. NOT TOO FAR FROM HERE!
HOW DID YOU
DR. LAW, HERE — BROUGHT ME FROM OUR WORLD!
TOM KIRBY IS INTRODUCED TO THE SHADOW MASTER, WHO HAS NEVER MET ANY OF THE INVINCIBLES IN THEIR DAILY IDENTITY..
I HEARD ON THE RADIO THAT TOM KIRBY WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED!
HE SAVED THE PRESIDENT FROM AN ASSASSIN'S BULLET! HE WAS HIT WITH A SOLID IMPACT~~IN THIS FOREHEAD!!!
SHADY EXPLAINS HOW HE AND DR LAW BARELY ESCAPED THE SECRET SERVICE MEN WHO WERE CHASING THEM FOR ALLOWING THE SNIPER'S ESCAPE...
SO YOU ARE THE TWO THEIR AFTER !!!


I'LL BUT I HAVE TO LAY LOW FOR AWHILE! I'LL CONTACT THE INVINCIBLES AND WE'LL DO WHAT WE CAN TO CLEAR YOUR NAMES! AND BRING THIS ASSASIN TO JUSTICE!!!
HE SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO LOCATE! HE'LL ALWAYS BE A SHADOW UNTIL EITHER SHADY OR MYSELF FREE HIM!
BUT IF JOHN FULMEN DIES... YOU WILL BE HUNTED FOR MURDER!!!
THERE ARE CERTAIN TIMES WHEN JUSTICE IS NOT REALLY JUSTICE AND DOES NOT HAVE TO BE UPHELD PERFECTLY! THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF SUCH A TIME~~~
AND I SWEAR, NEVER TO REST UNTIL JOHN'S SHOOTER IS BROUGHT TO JUSTICE ~~AND YOU ARE AGAIN FREE TO AS~ SUME THE IDENTITIES of DR. LAW AND SHADY!
DEFINATLY NOT THE END! MORE DR. LAW & SHADY IN FANTASY HEROES' HANGOUT!

yancy street Journal



Another new DUBAY - ARBUNICH fanzine is launched on it's progress making way. Formerly COMIC CAPER, but now in a new and different fanzine form. A zine dedicated entirely to the MARVEL comics group. Issue #3 is still available at per copy. Contains:

*The TIMELY YEARS: covers of early Timely comics, as well as comic reviews
*The ATLAS ANNALS: covers of early Atlas comics as well as comic reviews.
*The MYSTERY of MARVEL: Reviews, and cuts of Marvels' latest newsstand bombs.
*PLUS---IZ ZAT SO? , and YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDERMAN!!!

Order NOW---supply limited.

MARTIN J. LEADS THE WAY---YANCY STREET JOURNAL #4!

Reserve copies from Marty Arbunich
60 Gladys Street, San Francisco, Cal.

This issue will contain:

* THE TIMELY YEARS
* ATLAS ANNALS
* THE MYSTERY OF MARVEL
*SUBMARINER; SINK or SWIM?
*NAMOR vs. The SUB-MARINER

Don't miss Y.S.J. #4---an all SUB-MARINER ISSUE!!!

THE SORROW of your EDITORS

We are extremely sorry that we made you purchase this incomplete issue of FANTASY HERO #4. If you haven't noticed by this time, The DR. LAW-SHADY strip is short one page---page #4. This is the first and only actual printing mistake FANTASY HERO hasever run. We hope that you will forgive us, and that you think the rest of the issue is worth the price you have paid for it.

Thank You:

Bill Dubay & Marty Arbunich

Your very sorry editors.

- BEETLE BAILY by MORT WALKER

Mort Walker created Beetle Baily in 1950. With Dik Browne in 1954, he created Hi and Lois! And, with Jerry Dumas, in 1961, he created Sam's Strip!!! Mort Walker is one of the most widely read cartoonists in the history of comics. His strips appear in more than 1300 newspapers in 30 countries around the world. Only Chik Young of Blondie fame can come close to rivilling that!

Mort was born in Kansas, educated at the university of Missouri, and matured as an infantry officer in Italy during World War II! Today, Mort resides in Greenwich, Connetacut with his wife and six children ---at last count!

Mort likes to keep his working arrangements simple and uncomplicated so that the personal touch will remain in his art! There is no office full of secretaries and assistants as you might immagine.....There's only Jerry Dumas who comes by two or three times a week to help Mort with his lettering and background, and some ideas, while Mort helps Jerry out with his background and ideas.....both Mort and Jerry write ideas for Dik Browne who does only the drawing for Hi and Lois!!!

Chaplain

Lt. Fuzz

Bunny

Sgt. Snorkel

Killer

Zero

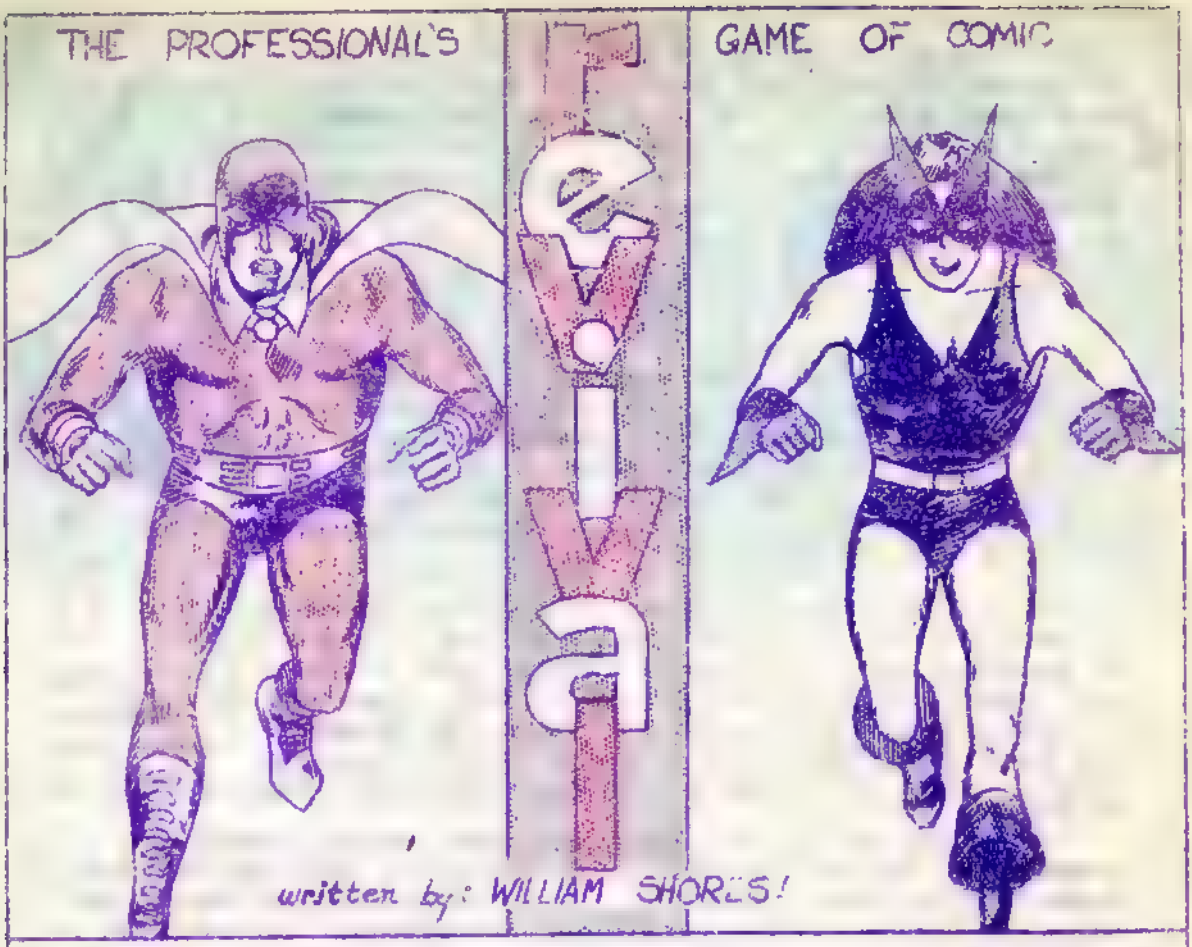
Beetle Baily

©KING FEATURES

Mort Walker

Everything sounds simple and uncomplicated so far, right? Well then, there's Bob Gustafson who writes and draws the Beetle Baily comic book ----and King features syndicate which handles the Beetle Baily television and theatre films, toys, books, and games! Truthfully, it is amazing how Mort Walker is able to keep a warm and personal touch in his strips. Which is only one of the reasons why Beetle Baily is the fastest growing strip in the world!!!

Mort Walker photo taken from SHORT RIBS by Frank O'Neal copyright 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961 by NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION INC.!!!



Professional comic writers and editors have been playing a game with comic fans and other organized companies, ever since the downfall of old time comic heroes. The game has been simple, to the point, and relatively easy for anyone to play, that is if his companyship had ever had super characters appearing in earlier comics. It is the game of REVIVAL! In reality, this game is just an easy way of getting out of the headaches and nightmares a writer goes through to create new personalities for comics.

I believe the first to start this game was DC, National Comics. Although the first revival was not really a reanimation at all, but meerly the switching of a personality for a character, we shall consider it such here. The original JOHNNY THUNDER was a super-nut. He ran around FLASH comics yelling 'Say you ' and having a magic lightning bolt do his bidding. The NEw Johnny Thunder, as you could call him, was a western hero. He did not have a LIGHTNING BOLT, but rather a lightning swift GUN! Meaning that he was fast on the draw. However, the character was dropped altogether because of the VERY short periodin which Western comics had their trend!

Second in line to 'play our little game' was the HARVEY comics group. But many fans will disagree and claim this the first house of comics to revive a character out of the past. In August of 1952, in Strange Fantasy #1, The BLACK CAT was the first comic heroine to be reincarnated. Only a few short years be fore she was dropped but Mr. Robert W. Farell, editor at that time of many of Harvey's comics, saw fit to give Lee Elias the job of illustrating — and away she went — the top super heroine of the year!

Almost at the exact same time, Joe Simon and Jack Kirby, the KINGS of hero creating, brought back the Stuntman, another Harvey Hero. This comic however was nothing but reprints of earlier issues of STUNTMAN COMICS. In issue #19 of THRILLS of TOMORROW, Feb. 1954, The Stuntman's origin was retold exactly as it appeared in Stuntman Comics, #1, April-May 1946! In issue #20, Thrills of Tom

arrow, the stories were taken from Stuntman #2, but many of the original panels were altered to conform with the newly formed Comics Code Authority. These stories nevertheless, were still a magnificient sight to see in comics. In these years of almost no heroes, it was heart warming to read old Simon and Kirby masterpieces. But, comic fans were still not ready for the greatness comic costume heroes brought to comics, so Stuntman, alias Fred Drake, was dropped from comics in less than twenty - five issues of Thrills of Tomorrow!!!

Although Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Green Arrow, Johnny Quick, and a few other characters dared to remain in circulation over the transition period none of the comic magazines in which they appeared in, ever came close to the old circulation number they had attained in the Golden Age! Super heroes were 'old fashioned', and not up to par enough to make a reappearance, and although all comics editors knew this, there were still those that tried...

In 1953, DELL comics tried to bring back into existance the marvelous creations of Mandrake the Magician, Tarzan of the Apes, and Green Hornet, Man of Mystery. Great as they were, they also lasted for a very short period. Apparantly the comic rights of The Green Hornet, Tarzan, and Mandrake were purchased by Dell in vain. Several hundred dollars was probably lost in the 'little deal' which was made with Harvey, and King Features Syndicate.

In the year of 1954, when good comics were 'dropping like flies', to coin an expression, used by undertakers, The ATLAS comics group took it's turn at our wonderous little game. CAPTAIN AMERICA, The HUMAN TORCH, and The SUB-MARINER were all revived in YOUNG MEN COMICS #24. Unfortunatly, this comic also took the fatefull plundge to Limbo Land!!!

Charlton was next in line to play 'REVIVAL'!!! It appears that this comic house purchased the rights to NYOKA, IVIS, the Invincible, and HOPPY, the Marvel Bunny. Several comics hit the stands with these semi-long underwear heroes featured. DANGER and ADVENTURE comics starred Nyoka and Ibis, and at times HAPPY, the new Marvel Bunny. A suprise to no one was that the BLUE BEETLhagain invaded the wonderful world of comics. He lasted an incredibly shorter period this stay, in Blue Beetle Comics, but when that was dropped, he took over solely in SPACE ADVENTURE comics. But in later years, Captain Atom, pushed the poorly done Blue Beetle aside and took over complete reign of Space Adventures. He lasted until 1961, with STEVE DITKO usually handling the artwork.

Finally, it was again National's turn to move. And move they did. The FLASH, greatest DC character of the 40's was again brought to life in SHOWCASE #4, Sept.-Oct. 1956 issue. Julius Schwartz, editor of this single volume of work, chose Carmine Infantino and Joe Kubert to do the drawings on Gardner Fox's, the original creater of the Flash, script!!! The Flash appeared in four smash issues of SHOWCASE comics, and eight sensational stories, before he received his own comic magazine. The modern Flash picked up where the original left off...issue #105 was the first, FEB.-MARCH 1959 issue. And again super heroedom was on the move.....

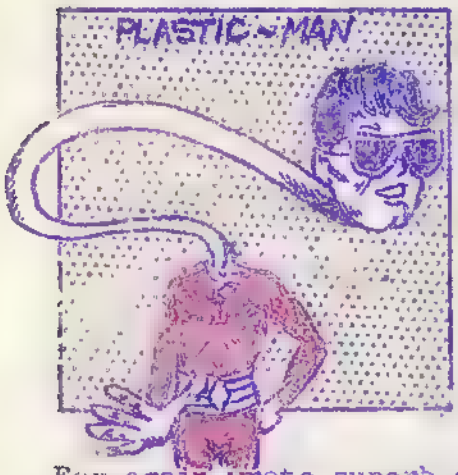
Nineteen hundred and fifty-nine, a truly fine year for comics, saw the rebirth of MLJ's most popular heroes from old...The SHIELD!!! Joe Simon and Jack Kirby, kings, handled most of the work for The DOUBLE L[illegible] PRIVATE STRONG; May-August 1959, issues #1 and #2 [illegible] was quite a bit of controversy on the subject [illegible] Strong was dropped. Some thought that the comic was cancelled because Simon and Kirby left the Archie group and went on their seperate ways. Some thought that the title leg of the comic was too indifferent to make the comic a soldier. The real reason however, has been openly revealed by two comic houses----Archie (Radio), and NATIONAL [illegible]. It seems that the Shield was one of SEVEN characters wiped out of existence by the Mighty Superman family of comics. The most publicized lawsuit was that of the Superman vs. Capt. Marvel imitation question. Naturally Superman won, as he has done many times since then. But why this time was it kept secret??? Could either periodical residences have been hiding something???!!

When DC rid the Shield of comics forever, they began to really see the light. They now realized fully that more characters could be placed on the stands with no danger of the comic going bankrupt. In SHOWCASE #22, Sept-Oct., 1959 GREEN LANTERN made his re-appearance. Gil Kane and Murphy Anderson did a superb job on the well written scripts. Less than six months after his three tryout appearances in Showcase, the green gladiator recieved his own magazine. Today comic fans believe that The Green Lantern is fading fast and that he will not exceed the number of issues his predicessor did---thirty-eight! But, if you were to presently take a look at any of the popularity polls for comic heroes, you would find Green Lantern among the top five. I firmly feel that Julie Schwartz has no intention of dropping this long time favorite from comics. Green Lantern will be with us for a good long while to come!!!

In the Feb.-Mar. issue of Brave and the Bold, 1960, another DC comic, the modern day JUSTICE SOCIETY of AMERICA was created!!! The original JSA made their appearance in ALL STAR Comics, the last issue of which was #57, 1954. Less than six years later, the J.S.A. was reincarnated in the form of The JUSTICE LEAGUE of AMERICA! In this modern league, there were three former JSA members, SUPERMAN, BATMAN & WONDER WOMAN. Two reinstated heroes, GREEN LANTERN & FLASH, and the famous AQUAMAN, who was one of the few characters to last through the dreaded years of comic cirtulars. Plus the infamous John Jonnz Superman imitator of Mars. A former member of the Seven Soldiers of Victory, was added to the Justice League when they achieved their own novel work. Green Arrowr joined in issue #4...But more on the Justice League later:..

Onward now, back to Radio comics, where they retaliated and revived the Black Hood. Fly Comics#7, July 1960. In a short eight page story starring the Fly, Kip Burland, alias Black Hood gets sent to Europe as a special police representative, where he saves the Fly from destruction, by hoods of a different type. They reveal their secret identities to each other and go on their own merry ways. In later issues, the Fly and the Black Hood appeared regularly on a one page Karate teaching page. He appeared in two more stories before the Fly met his ultimation.....Lambo!!!

The same month the Black Hood returned, DC again [illegible] Flash Comics #112, April May 1960, Carmine Infantino and [illegible] Fox teamed up to bring to the fans, Elongated Man. [illegible] comics left the stands permanently, all of the [illegible] were sold to National. The Blackhawks stayed on the stands [illegible] until now was the Plasticman revived!!! Although the Elongated Man is not exactly the PLASTICMAN he used to be, he still has to be considered a revived comic hero. Ralph Dibny, who as a boy, marveled at men who were capable of stretching their body into all shapes, discovered the secret of Gingold!!! He drank an excess dose and later ate a fruit of Gingold, and was capable of stretching his body into any shape. The Elongated Man is an occasional [illegible] Flash Comics and now he is an addition to the prodigious NEW DEFENDERS COMICS. Carmine Infantino is inking his own pencils on the scrip of Gardner Fox provides the quality of work that is needed to make the Elongated Man the truly different creation that he is today!!!



Flash Comics, December 1960, #117 features the reorigin of three characters from the Golden Age of Comics Winky Dinky and Noddy, the three [illegible] harassed the original Flash [illegible] plague the second Flash [illegible] however, was relatively short [illegible] comic fans did not wish the second [illegible] to be disgraded by the dimwits as the originak was, so after a short [illegible] appearance, they apparantely [illegible] Limbo!!!

By this time, Comic he[illegible] popping up all over. Julius [illegible] C[illegible] struck again-----Feb-March [illegible] Brave & Bold comics---Hawkman [illegible] favorite of the 40's, flew high. Gardner Fox again wrote superb scripts for the winged wonder with Joe Kubert handled the art. After 3 tryout issues of B&B the [illegible] Hawkman and Shiera ceased. But "Never say die" editor [illegible] gave the winged fighters a second chance, one year later Fans rejoiced to see Hawkman and Hawkgirl again fly high in Brave and Bold However when this appearance failed to bring Hawkman to the stands permanently, the organization of Comic Fandom entered the picture and did their all out best to bring this magnificent hero [illegible] own comic book. So much work was put into the "Save Hawkman" drive that DC featured Hawkman and Hawkgirl in Mystery in Space. Under the unique pen of Murphy Anderson, they soon won their wings and took flight in their own magazine!!!

The year of 1961 advanced rapidly for everyone. But the year was really never when the pros did anything to make a comic year to remember. In same week of June, three comic books hit the stands with such impact----the entire comic collecting world was stunned. SHOWCASE Sept-Oct. 1961 featured the "return" of the Atom. FANTASTIC FOUR COMICS Nov. #1 featured the return of the Human Torch. FLASH comics #123, Sept 1961 featured a true classic. which teamed [illegible] Flash with the original Flash.

Of these three, the Flash comic, needless to say, was [illegible] It featured the current Flash discovering a duplicate [illegible] he meets his old boyhood comic hero, the original Flash [illegible] crime crusader comes out of retirement and battl[illegible]

...and best foes; the shade, the Fiddler and the Thinker

The other two books which featured the Human Torch and the Atom were by far outstanding as two of the best revival issues ever put... Gardner Fox worked with Gil Kane and Murphy Anderson on the Atom while Stan Lee worked with Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers on the Fantastic Four. All three of these classics produced a week in the year of 1961...well worth while!!

Onward we move. The year is 1962. Radio, Dell and Charlton comics produce nothing in the hero line. National and Marvel as it is now called, took the comic industry lead.

Fantastic Four #4 May 1962 was the first of a long list of revivals to be done in this year. The Human Torch leaves the Fantastic Four and hides in an old boarding house. While there he discovers an aged old man who cannot remember anything about himself. He finds that the man is a possessor of strength of ten or more men. He gives the old man a shave and is surprised a twhat he sees. The Torch brings the man to the ocean where he drops him into the water-----behold an instantaneous transformation into-----The SUBMARINER.

The story was Stan Lee at his best. The artwork was King Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers at the peak of their teamship. Together these three men produced one comic magazine to become a true classic from the year of 1962.

Exactly one month later, Detective Comics Inc. retaliated with another return... The Flash came back again to join his predesessor in another book length fantastic. On two pages of this classic the Justice Society of America were re-drawn by Infantino exactly as they appeared in their last book, All-Star #57. But this was not to be the year destined to be for the JSA full revival---as we shall see later.

In the final months of 1962, Harvey publishing group tried a comeback with the Black Cat. Unfortunately, all the stories were reprints with revisions made on the color overshoots for printing. They were taken from the Lou Elias strips in Strange Fantasy and Black Cat Comics. The 3 giant issues published extended from October 1962 to April 1963. Most likely the reason why the Black Cat was dropped was because the readers did not feel like reading old-time stories. And because Harvey just ran out of strips that would pass the comics code.

A new comic Company sprung up overnight in 1963. There wasn't much in the line of super-heroes but it can be noted that Gold Key took from comic Limbo the Phantom, who had not been in comics since the Harvey era. Recently however Gold Key has revived John Carter of Mars, and Buck Rogers. It will be interesting to see the line that the Buck Rogers book will follow. The John Carter books presently are reprints taken from the Golden Age. The Phantom, the best character of Gold Key carries stories based on the old newspaper strips by Lee Falk.

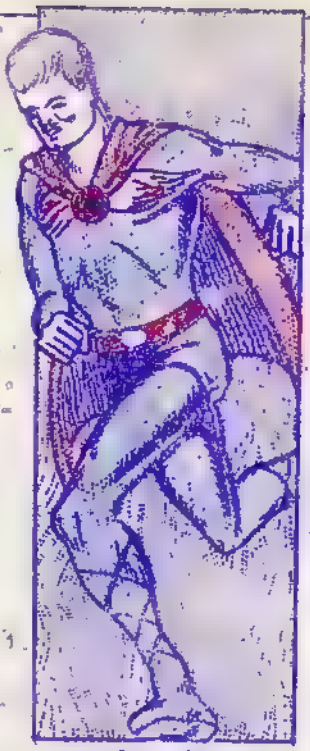
The year of 1963 was the best in activity in the way of character re-appearance. In June issue of Flash Comics #137, made the biggest and the best contribution to the revival period of Comics. In this single classical issue. Seven all-star grears from the 40's reappeared Dr. Midnight, Wonder Woman, Johnny Thunder, Hawkman, Green Lantern and the Atom reappeared in an action filled tale based on the revival of new of comics' oldest characters the Immortal Vardal Savag.

In the August 1963 issue of JLA comics #21-22 the JSA also had a revival. Almost 30 Heroes were squeezed into a 24 page magazine. And this representation saw-----JSA members "hit the books again." Flash, Green Lantern, Black Canary, The Atom, Hourman and Dr. Mid-Nite plus the Fiddler, the Icicle, the Wizard, villains of old.

N[illegible]y a year after [illegible] first appearance in [illegible]JLA, the JSA members have again gained a firm [illegible]and on the public audience. And this time, they may just prove to the editors to be far more successful than ever. And if so, I believe that we will see more and more of this famed organization time and time again. Since their recent appearance in JLA #29, the JLA are becoming a great team loved by fans all over in comicdom.

In 1963, Marvel comics also did their share in this game of reinstating X-MEN comics #1 Sept. 1963 saw the rebirth of the Angel. Although the original character seemed to me to be rather dull and typical of his era, this modernized character is quite good. I can forsee a long and glorious career for the Angel and the X-MEN. I only wish that DC would agree with me and drop their lawsuit against the X-MEN. It seems that since the Doom Patrol and the X-men have been too similar in past issues, and because Professor X is almost a duplicate of the Doom Patrol professor, the Doom Patrol part of DC is suing the X-men publishers of Marvel for copying. However this is not the time or the place to go into detail about this subject.

The year 1963 also served well as a year for fandom revivals. In Fantasy Heros #2, Nov. 1963, The Gray Grasshopper was an exact imitation of his forerunner. There are high hopes for this character in the future, and already he has leaped with one bound to the top among other fandom favorites.



ORIGINAL ANGEL

PRESENT DAY ANGEL of the X-MEN!

In Comic Caper#2, another revival appeared in amateur comicdom. The Junior Commandoes who were taken from the Golden Age, have been revived. But now back to more pro revivals!!!!

The year of 1964 started off with a big bang. January first saw the rebirth of the Invincible Captain America in Avengers #4. Although presently in Avengers comics, the good Cap is soon to star in Tales of Suspense to be a feature with Ironman in every issue of Ironamn.

Daredevil #1, April 1964, is another revival from the Golden Age. Although the editors do not claim that he is a revival, we would have to consider such if we want this to be a complete article. With another first issue smash, Marvel again brought one of their fine characters to the top, with Bill Everett's rendition to this character. However with Joe Orlando doing the present artwork on the new Daredevil, the character is destined to descend slowly but surely (my own opinion).

In this same month, the two most recent revivals have appeared. Radio Comics' SHADOW and Charltons' BLUE BEETLE. I don't believe that it is necessary to speak on these comics because their own recent publications speak for themselves however only let me state that unless some drastic changes are made in both of these comics, this pair may again join with the land of LIMBO!

Nineteen Hundred and Sixty Four has so far, proved to be the most lively year of the old comic hero reappearances and I believe that I can expect several more before this year has come to a close. You can expect new comic heroes appearing in comic books from any company from Charlton to Marvel and DC. And although National comics has clearly stated that they plan to have no more revivals for this coming year, I believe that they will fall to the pleas and protests of the readers. Soon they will revive many more characters before this, the REVIVAL AGE OF COMICS, leads into another age!

ORIGINAL ATOM

—COSTUME CONTEST RETURNS—

For the past six months, Action Hero, in association with this fanzine, Fantasy Hero, has been running a contest to see which comic fan could create the most original hero! The winners of this costume contest are:

FIRST PLACE: The SEVENTH by Charles Curtis 22 votes
SECOND: The NOPSEMAN by Steve Perrin 21 votes
THIRD: LIBERTY LEADER by Chik Dubay 19 votes
RUNNERS UP: (In order of points...)

4th: The NIGHTHAWK 14 votes
5th: CAPTAIN OCCULT 13 votes
6th: The GUARDIAN 7 votes
7th: Charger - AXE 5 votes
8th: LIGHTNING 3 votes
9th: MR. TRUTH 3 votes
10th: CAPT. DEMOCRACY 2 vts
11th: Capt. COSMOS - CATFISH 2 votes
12th: LADY [illegible] - VICTORY 1 vote
13th: RED [illegible] - RED COMET - RAIDER
14th: and CAPT. COLOR..... 0 votes

—INQUIRY POLL RETURNS—

When Fantasy Hero first began, it was distributed with sheets of paper inquiring into the the comic life of it's fans. Now, is the result of that inquiry—

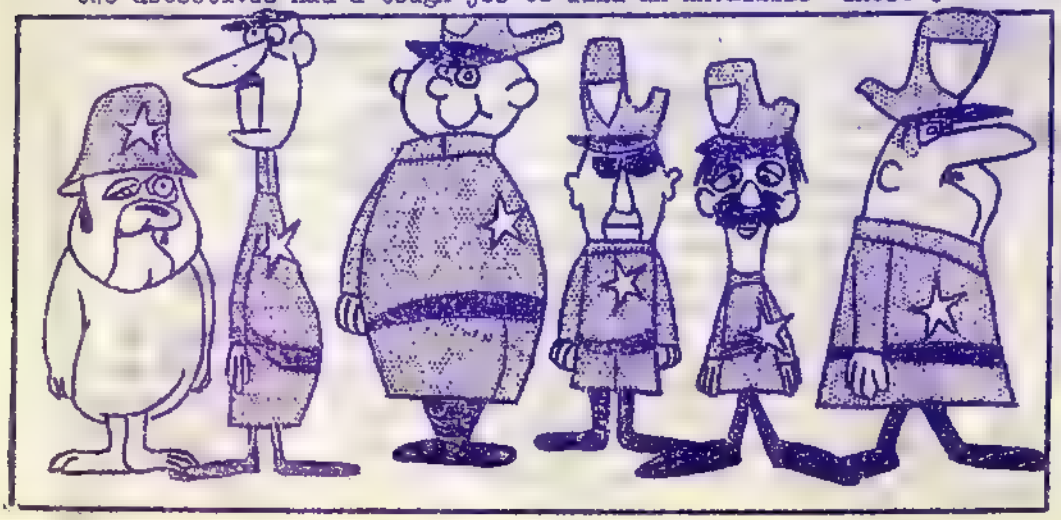
Average age of comic collectors in fandom...18
Average occupation of fandom comic collectors...student: HS
Average comic collection of fandom collectors...1400 comics
Oldest comic on the whole, is: SUPERMAN (1 to 10)
Average comic most prized by collectors: any ALL WINNERS
Average age collectors have been actively interested in comics...3 years! Favorite Old time hero: Capt. AMERICA!
Favorite old time illustrator: JACK KIRBY
Favorite old time writer: STAN LEE
Favorite old time comic company: Timely
Favorite writer today: Stan LEE! Artist: JACK KIRBY
Favorite comic company TODAY: MARVEL (unanimous)
Comic everybody wants, on the whole: ALL STAR COMICS #1
EVERYONE wants to work for a comic fanzine! Only 50% (exactly) of the comic fans want to enter the comic business! 25 wish to be writers...only 3 wish to become illustrators!
HEROES MOST WANTED BY FANS TO BE REVIVED.....DR. MID-NITE, The SPECTRE, BUCKY, and STUNTMAN!!!!!

heroes OF THE SCREEN

When Dick Tracy started his comic strip career in 1931, not many people would think that this new character would appear on the screen. During the years up to 1937, the comic strip gained such popularity that the Republic Pictures secured the Screen Rights, and began production on a 15 chapter serial entitled "Dick Tracy." Proving very successful, Republic turned out 3 more 15 episoders:"Dick Tracy Returns", "Dick Tracy's G-men", and "Dick Tracy Vs. Crime Inc." After the last serial, Dick Tracy did not fade from the screen. RKO pictures bought the rights from republic and turned out their own series of films about the ace detective. Unlike Republic, RKO made 4 full length pictures, starting in 1945. The last place Dick Tracy showed up was on telivision, as a filmed series and a cartoon show.

Throughout almost the entire screen career of Dick Tracy, one actor has played the role, Ralph Byrd. The only other actor was Morgan Conway, who starred in the first two teacures from RKO. The significant feature of Ralph Byrd was that he looked like Tracy. Byrd can be called the counterpart of Buster(Flash Gordon) Crabbe and George(Superman) Reeves. Though Tracy was always around, not many of the other comic strip characters were present in the films. Not until RKO took over did many appear and Sam Catchem came only on the telivision series.

"Dick Tracy Vs. Crime Inc." was the last serial from Republic featuring the famous sleuth. It was made in 1941 and in 1952 it was released again under the new title of "Dick Tracy Vs. the Phantom Empire". The serial starred Ralph Byrd as Dick Tracy. Another Ralph also had a part in the cliff hanger. This was Ralph Morgan, who Portrayed the "Ghost", a criminal mastermind who had the power of invisibility. Through the 15 episodes, Tracy was aided by his partner, Bill Carr, who saves him more than once. The two detectives had a tough job to find an invisible "Ghost".



DICK TRACY'S modern heroes of the screen! The RETOUCHABLES the new cartoon series! Tracy helpers! More or a comedy relief for Tracy than anything else!!!

DICK TRACY vs. CRIME INCORPORATED

Chapter 1 THE FATAL HOUR

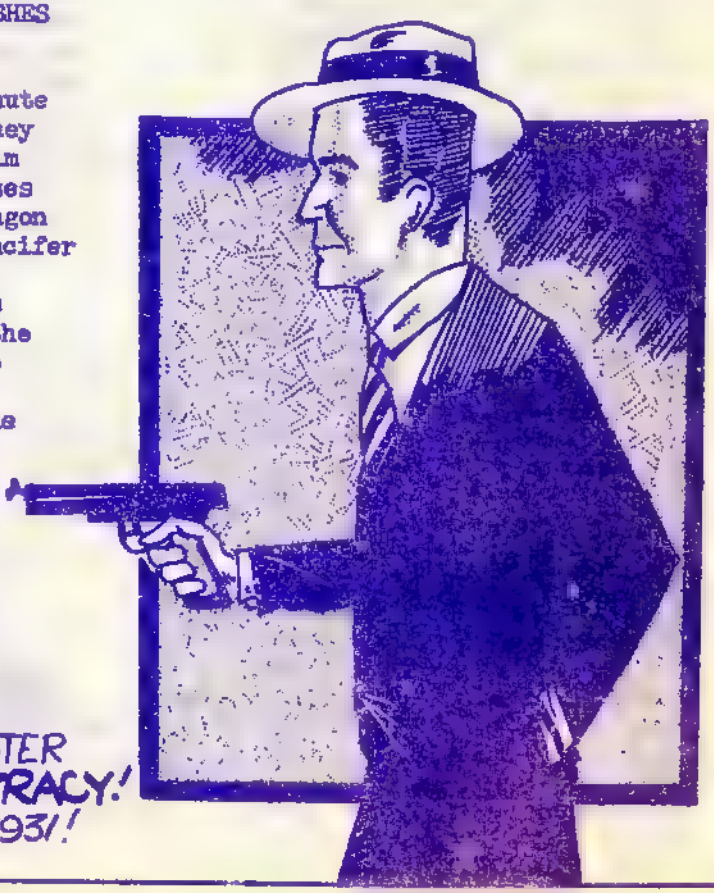
A master criminal called the "Ghost" has been spreading a reign of crime throughout New York City. The only clue to his identity is a thumb print of "Rackets" Reagon, a deceased crime czar. Keeping with his deathly name, the "Ghost" plans to destroy New York by bombing an earthquake fault. Learning of this plan, a group of citizens called the "Council of Eight", send for Dick Tracy, the ace detective, Tracy and his friend and partner, Bill Carr, race to the target area and encounter the "Ghost's fanatic scientist, Lucifer who is successful in releasing a few bombs from his airplane before the crime fighters overtake him. Tracy's plane buzzes Lucifer's, but is suddenly seized in the wake of one of the explosions. The plane crashes into the turbulent water below.

Chapter 2 THE PRISONER VANISHES

Before the disabled plane hits the water, Tracy and Carr parachute to safety on the beach. There they find Lucifer unconsious, a victim of his own doing. Tracy recognises Lucifer as the brains of the Reagon Mob and has him jailed. Later Lucifer is to be examined by the police psychiatrist. The "Ghost" learns of this and takes the place of the psychiatrist to gain entrance to Lucifer's cell. In the cell, the Ghost makes the two invisible and the two escape. Finding the two missing, Tracy gives pursuit. As he is about to overtake the two conspirators, they release a flood of oil from their car. Tracy's auto skids, runs off the road and crashes at the bottom of a steep bank into aburst of flames.

Chapter 3 DOOM PATROL

Dick Tracy leaps from the car just in time, and returns to town. The "Ghost" has already disposed of three members of the "Council of Eight". For safety, Tracy informs the others to tell him of their activities. Brewster, an industrial scientist, tells Tracy that he is making a shipment of great value by train. Tracy who suspects an attack by the Ghost, hastens to the scene with Carr, to find the Ghost's men are there. In a running fight, Carr is almost killed but is saved by Tracy, enabling the crooks to get away, but without the cargo. The shipment is schedualed to be transferred to a boat, previously booby trapped by the Ghost. Tracy hurries there and intercepts the craft, but at the wrong time. The boat crashes into the canal lock and the explosives go off.



THE ORIGINAL WAY CHESTER GOULD DREW DICK TRACY! from a 1931 strip --- ©1931!

Chapter 4 DEAD MAN'S TRAP

Bill Carr dives his airplane and picks up Tracy before the boat hits the locks. A badge lost by one of the Ghost's men leads Tracy and Bill to investigate Collins, a worker in Trents Steel Mill, where machinery is being made for an aerial bomb developed by Brewster. Collins, warned by the Ghost, discovers the detectives and a fight ensues. Fearing for Trent, Tracy and Carr hurries to his home, but the ghost is a head of them. The invisible killer secures the plans for the precision machinery, killing Trent in the process. Trying to save the industrialist, Tracy leaps forward but plunges into a concealed pit that protects Trent's vault.

Chapter 5 MURDER AT SEA

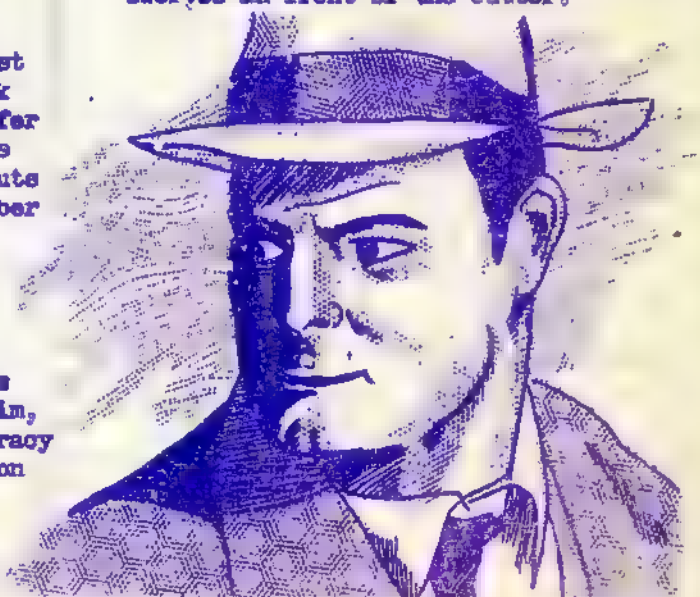
As Tracy plunges into the pit, he grabs the edge and hangs on until Bill rescues him. As usual, the Ghost gets away. Tracy learns that the foreign agent named Draga is going to meet the Ghost, and so he follows him. Draga spots his pursuer and makes a break for a waiting speed boat. Tracy gives chase and is almost crushed to death when his craft is caught between two steamers. Finally Tracy and his men locate the Ghost aboard a schooner and they attack them. The timely arrival of Lucifer makes the Ghost invisible, and he sneaks away from the fight. He cuts a rope which sends a load of lumber crashing down on our hero.

Chapter 6 BESIEGED

The lumber barely misses Tracy. Wilson, one of Tracy's men, spots the Ghost and he tries to stop him, only to be shot himself. Later Tracy reveals to the council that Wilson had information to the Ghost's whereabouts, but he is too weak to talk. Thus being told of his danger, the Ghost sends his men, posing as an ambulance crew, to abduct the hospitalized Wilson. Tracy and Bill discover the ruse and overtake the fake ambulance, but they are forced off the road from a barrage of hand grenades being dropped from an airplane piloted by Lucifer. The two detectives take refuge in a shack, but Lucifer dives over it and demolishes the shack with an aerial bomb.

Chapter 7 SEA RACKETEERS

Tracy and Carr escape destruction through a trap door in the shack's floor. Tracy's new assignment is to guard Morton's (a new member of the Council) gold shipment. The ace detective places a heavy guard around the Customs House where the gold is to be stored. The Ghost's men tunnel under the vault and burn their way in. Tracy surprises the crooks and the resulting battle carries him through the tunnel and into a waiting speed boat, where he is knocked out. The boat speeds out into the open waters with Tracy as a prisoner. Carr, patrolling the adjacent waters in a Coast Guard cutter, gives chase and opens fire on the small speed boat. One by one, the crooks are wiped out, and Tracy goes down when the craft swerves in front of the cutter.



RALPH BYRD ~~~ DICK TRACY of 1939!

Chapter 8 TARIN OF DOOM

Tracy leaps from the speedboat before the crash and is rescued by Bill Carr. Hoping to trap the Ghost, Tracy sees to it that he gets information about a reshipment of the gold, which is really lead. Using his power of invisibility, the Ghost hijacks the gold, along with Tracy who is hidden in the rear of the armored car. After radioing his location, Tracy is discovered. The police arrive in time, but the Ghost gets away to rob the real gold shipment which is being carried on a train. Tracy attempt to warn the train by parachuting on to it, but a sudden wind blows the detective directly into the path of the on rushing locomotive.

Chapter 9 BEHEADED

When the train crew lifts the mangled parachute, they find Tracy lying besides the tracks, stunned but not hurt. During the days that follow, Tracy secures a new clue, after an attempt on his life. A medal presented to each of the council of eight is now in the possession of T Tracy, who calls a meeting of the remaining four men. At the meeting, Tracy demands that each of the members show his medal. At this critical moment, Lucifer puts out the lights and the evidence is switched. Tracy observes that Cabot has the previously marked medal, and so later, Tracy goes to investigate this "councilor". Arriving at Cabot's home, Tracy finds that the Ghost has preceded him and that Cabot is dead. The Ghost, in hiding, hushes Tracy and brings an axe down on him.

Chapter 10 FLAMING PERIL

Tracy evades the axe and the Ghost disappears. Tracy is now certain that the Ghost is a member of the council of eight. In an effort to trap him, Tracy spreads a rumor that he has uncovered an old diary of "Rackets" Reagon. Fearing that his true identity might be in the diary, the Ghost arranges to get the diary at all costs. Becoming invisible, the Ghost gains entrance to the guarded building and quickly finds the diary. To his surprise, the book is filled with blank pages and the Ghost realizes he is in a trap. To escape, the invisible menace s sets fire to the police laboratory, where Tracy is working on the method of the Ghost's invisibility. The lab goes up into a burst of flames.

Chapter 11 SECONDS TO LIVE

Tracy saves himself by leaping from the burning building in a net held by firemen. The next day, Tracy recieves a telephone call from Brewster, indicating that he is in grave danger. Tracy and Bill race to Brewster's plant in time to thwart the stealing of the plans for an aerial torpedo. Racing ahead of the Ghost's men, Tracy and Carr block the road and a fight ensues. Brewster manages to get into the truck carrying the torpedo and turns the firing pin on. Breaking away from the fight, Tracy Goes to the truck. As he climbs inside, the aerial weapon explodes, blowing the truck to bits.

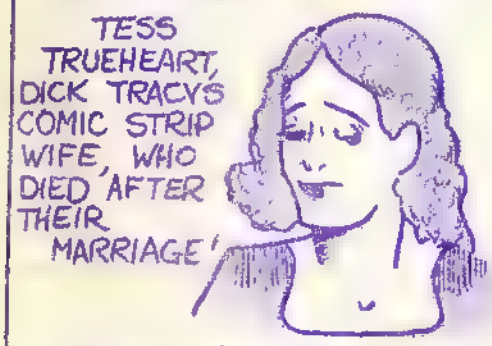
Chapter 12 TRIAL BY FIRE

Tracy hears that the aerial torpedo is about to go off and so he flings himself out of the truck. The resulting explosion enables to let the crooks escape. Since Brewster was seen setting off the torpedo, he is Tracy's suspect of being the Ghost. Tracy learns that Brewster has another working model of the torpedo and trails him, only to find an imposter. The real Brewster is the captive of the Ghost, refusing to reveal the hidding place of the torpedo. The Ghost prepares to toss Brewster into the incinerator. Inder

this deadly threat, Brewster talks just as Tracy and Carr bust in. During the wild fight, Tracy is knocked on the top of the incinerator conveyor and is carried to the waiting flames.

Chapter 13 THE CHALLENGE

Carr pulls Tracy from the moving belt just in the nick of time, and then tends to the wounded Brewster, while Dick pursues the Ghost's car. Seeing Tracy gaining on him, the Ghost releases the aerial torpedo at the detective. The explosion hurtles Tracy's car off the road and into the water below. Tracy, unhurt, swims to shore as the master criminal drives off. Later, Tracy, convinced that either Weldon or Morton is the Ghost, calls them to a meeting and informs the two that they are to spend the night at a hotel, being watched at all times. Each man is assigned separate rooms. That night, Lucifer turns the Ghost invisible and emerges from one of the rooms. As the Ghost is about to leave, Lucifer has to adjust the invisibility machine and he becomes visible. Tracy spots the masked Ghost and pursues him to the roof. In the desperate fight, the Ghost manages to push Tracy off the parapet into the street below.



Chapter 14 INVISIBLE TERROR

As Tracy falls to the pavement below, he grabs hold of an electric sign and swings on to a ledge. Climbing back to the roof, there is no sign of the Ghost. Meanwhile, Brewster, lying ill in the hospital, has important news for Tracy. When Tracy arrives, he finds Brewster dead, work of the Ghost. For all is not lost, for Tracy spots the fleeing assassins and pursues them to the Ghost's lair. Overcoming the odds, Tracy captures the Ghost but then the criminal turns invisible and escapes again. Outside, the Ghost's lieutenant rushes to a waiting airplane. Tracy attempts to block the take-off and runs his car into an oncoming train which the plane also collides with.

Chapter 15 RETRIBUTION

Just before the triple crash, Tracy leaps from his car. Corey, the Ghost's lieutenant, is severely injured and taken to the hospital. Tracy summons Morton and Weldon to the gangsters room, stating that Corey will identify one of them as the Ghost. At that critical moment the lights go out and the Ghost, invisible, tries to kill Tracy. But this time , the ace detective is ready and uses an ingenious counter-ray that nullifies the Ghost's power. Before anyone can take action, the Ghost smashes the machine and flees. Tracy and Carr use blood hounds, and trail the invisible criminal to a nearby power-house. Cornered, the Ghost tries one last effort to escape, but stumbles over a high tension wire and is electricuted. In death, the Ghost becomes visible and is revelaed to be Morton. Tracy unraveling the mystery, deduces that Morton was revenging himself on society for death of his racketeer brother, Rackets Reagon. The case of the Ghost is over, as Dick Tracy awaits his nexy adventure.

-THE END-

OTHER DICK TRACY SERIALS:

* DICK TRACY — REPUBLIC — 1937
* DICK TRACY RETURNS — REPUBLIC — 1938
* DICK TRACY'S G-MEN — REPUBLIC — 1939
* DICK TRACY VS. CRIME INC. — REPUBLIC — 1941

KING

THE PRINCE OF THE COMIC STRIPS

by MARTY ARBUNICH

For more than 3000 years, comic strips have amazed and delighted people of all phases in life!! From the ancient Egyptians wh drew on papyrus, the first cartoons, to modern day cartoonists, who do their work by drawing on paper, comic features have captivated the imaginations of all!!!

The past 51 years have been the most astounding in the progression of comic strips. My following report is on the life of the King Features Syndicate, it's beginning and it's progression through the years.

The year was 1914, a new feature syndicate came into view. King Features Syndicate had a slow beginning. King featured their first so called 'adult comic strip' early in 1914 called "Abie and Agent", illustrated by Harry Hershfield. Also in this starting year, Tarzan of "Tarzan of the Apes" came into existence but he was not featured in a comic strip until 1929, 15 years later.

'King' had a failing year in 1915, debuting no features of interest. But in 1916, 'King' became the first syndicate to feature a movie color cartoon, "Thomas Cat."

1917 was a progressing year. "The Gumps", one of America's most loved characters, hit the scene. With Sydney Smith as it's first artist, "The Gumps" became very popular around the comic world.

In 1918, Krazy Kat was originated.

1919 was a tri-feature year. Barney Google was created and Thimble Theatre began is long existence. Gasoline Alley was also established as a comic character in this year.

The following year of 1920, only introduced one feature, "Old Home Town".

Early in 1921, a real fan pleaser came into existence. It's name was "Ripley's Believe It or Not", Soon Laugh-O-Grams, Walt Disney's first cartoon series entertained the world. 'King' soon brought around a gal who was loved by all...her name was "Tillie the Toiler". Shortly Frank King's Gasoline Alley appeared in the funnies.

J.R. Williams single panel feature, "Out Our Way", was published by 'King' in the year of 1922.

1923 brought a new animal character into a strip, Felix the Cat. Later in this year, the popular Walt Disney made his "Alice" combining cartoon and life characters to make an animated cartoon.

1924 saw the first successful comic strip of the talented Chic Young. "Dumb Dora" The present Orphan Annie mades it's cartooning debut by Harold Gray.

1925 and 1926 were minor years in comic history as far as new features are concerned. "Little Annie Rooney" strip began in 1927 drawn by Darrell McClure. This same year, President Coolidge and Justice O.W. Holmes became avid fans of a new feature, "Nize Baby and Count Screwloose".

Wally Bishop presented "Muggs and Skeeter" in 1928 while Walt Disney introduced Mickey Mouse into his first sound cartoon entitled "Steamboat Willie" Mickey Mouse had appeared in two previous cartoons but they were silent.

In 1929, Walt Disney again focused his talent by releasing his "Silly Symphonies". "Buck Rogers", man of the 25th century was concieved in this year by John Dille while R.W. Calkins was doing the art for this supposed first 'super hero.'

The year of 1930 saw Walt Disney put Mickey Mouse in his first comic strip. Also in this year, Chic Young created his ever lovin' Blondie.

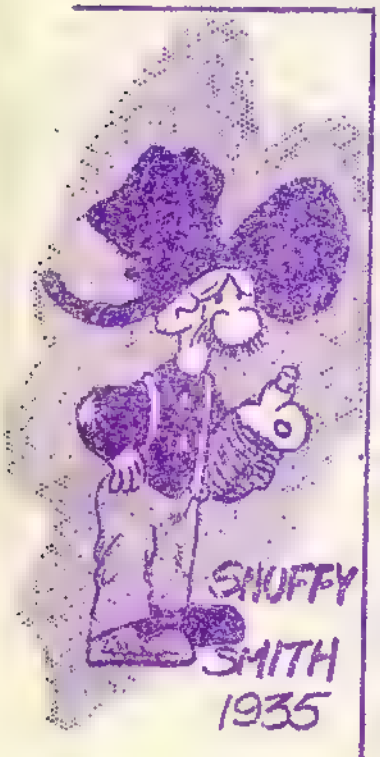
Paul Robinson's Etta Kett was brought into a comic strip in 1931. Later in this year, the ever popular Dick Tracy, ace detective was spotlighted by Chester Gould.

"Skippy" and "Pete the Tramp" were introduced into the comic world in 1932. "Tim Tyler's Luck" started in the Saturday Evening Post, later it appeared in 1935 in a comic strip. Popeye the sailor made his cartooning debut in Thimble Theatre in this year.

In 1933, the famous Brick Bradford was originated and introduced by Clarence Gray and Bill Ritt

"The Little King", a welcome favorite was transferred from the New Yorker magazine to Puck, the American Weekly in 1934. Lee Flak and Phil Davis created their well known "Mandrake the Magician" in this year. Alex Raymond introduced 2 well known and loved favorites, "Secret Agent X-9 and the famous FLASH GORDON who was featured by Alex in the Sunday page. Al Capp's "Li'l Abner also made it's beginning in this year.

"Barney Google and Snuffy Smith" proved to be a welcome feature by Fred Lasswell in the year of 1935.



One of the most promising comic strip super heroes was introduced in 1936. The PHANTOM began his career by Lee Falk and Wilson McCoy. Another favorite of comic strip readers was a feature by the late Jimmy Hatlo entitled "They'll Do It Every Time".

"Prince Valiant in the Days of King Arthur" had it's start in 1937 by the talented and very fine artist, Harold Foster.

RIP KIRBY
1946

PEANUTS!

CHARLIE BROWN
1950

The ever popular Donald Duck was brought around by the great Walt Disney in 1938. Also a less popular strip came to be, "Right around Home with Myrtle".

'King Features' brought the western cowboys into view. The first and most popular of these was the "silver bullet swingin" "The Lone Ranger. This took place in 1939.

Comic books became even more popular than comic strips start- with the year of 1940, but the comic strips did their best to keep on top. 'King' now introduced "Willie and Joe" a future Pulitzer prizewinner in 1945. E. Simms Campbell's "Cuties" became the first feature in a comic strip to be successfully illustrated by a negro artist.

In 1942, Milton Caniff started his "Miss Lacy" cartoons. "Hubert" first appeared in an army newspaper called the Stars and Stripes and in 1945 was put in a 'King' comic strip. He was created by Dick Wingert.

1943 saw Roy Crane who created "Wash Tubbs" and "Captain Easy" create an even better pair of comic characters who soon became real well known favorites, "Buz Sawyer" and "Roscoe Sweeney" Jimmy Hatlo introduced his mischievious "Little Iodine" in the Sunday funnies "The Flop Family" came to be "Cartoon Cavalcade" also was published by 'King'.

In 1944, Frank Robbins started his "Johnny Hazzard." "Strictly Richter" was underway in a 'King' publication.

The year of 1945 saw Don Flowers put glamor into the comic strips by presenting his "Glamor Girls."

Alex Raymond, released from the Marines, created his second big hit, "Rip Kirby" in 1946.

In 1947, Milton Caniff manifested his famous "Terry and the Pirates" to 'King' and later in this same year he introduced his adventursome "Steve Canyon." "The Comics" was published. The Government of Belgium was using popular comic strip characters such as Popeye, Henry, Blondie, Katzenjammer Kids, Little King etc. to combat inflation (increase in money but no corresponding increase in bussiness). "Grandman" was introduced by Charles Kuhn

Paul Norris became the artist for the jungle hunter, "Jungle Jim" in 1948, which was started by Alex Raymond

In 1950, the king of the ring "Big Ben Bolt" was created by John Cullen Murphy. Charles Schulz's little rascallion "Peanuts" was invented as Mort Walker's "Beetle Bailey" came into view.

1951 saw a new cowboy, "The Cisco Kid" Also in this year, the adventurs me Beetle Bailey went into the army to continue his cartooning career there.

1952 saw the incipience of that crazy mag, "Mad"

"The Heart of Juliet Jones" was created by Stan Drake and Elliott Caplan in 1953. "The Little Woman" soon followed by Don Tobin.

"Hi and Lois" had a 1954 debut by Mort Walker and Dik Browne.

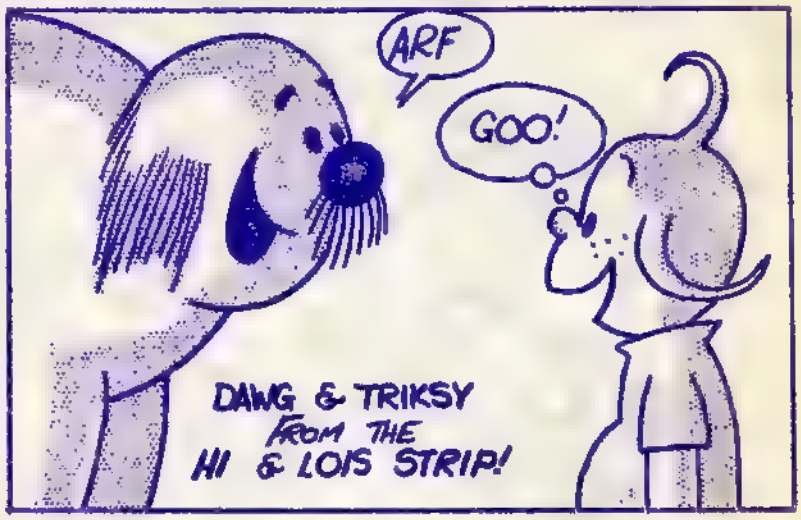
"Mrs Fits's Flats" was created and drawn by Frank Roberge in 1956. Later in this year, Archie became a King Feature comic strip by Bob Montana.

1957 was the year Judd Saxon was introduced to a comic strip.

"Mr. Abernathy was revealed to King Features by Ralston Jones and Frank Ridgeway.

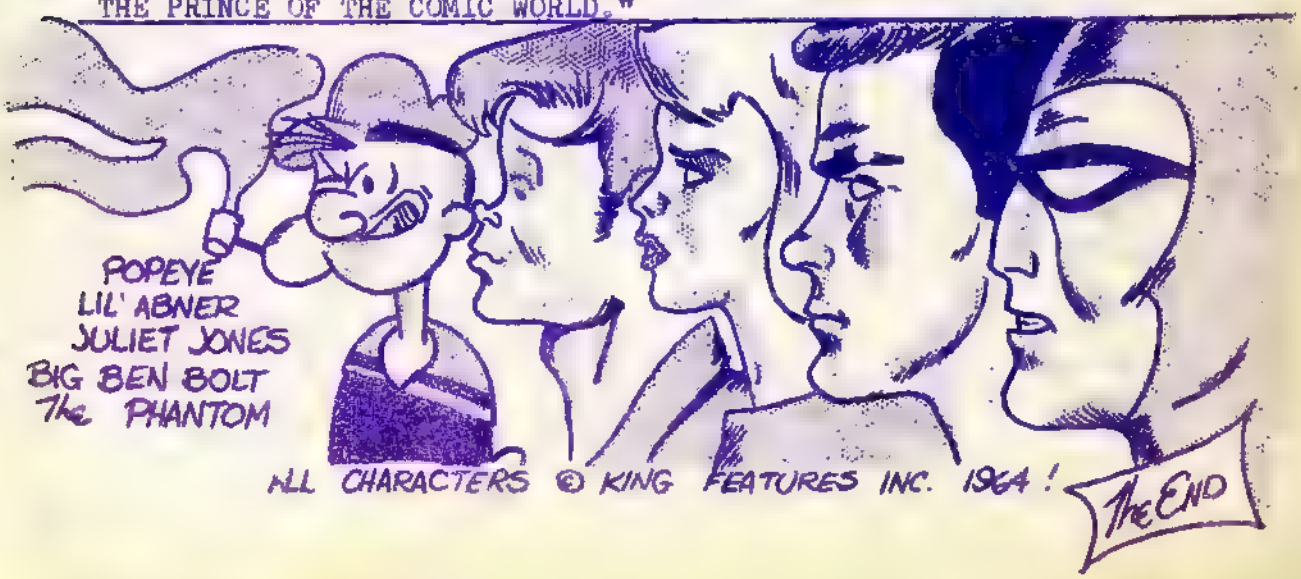
Stephen Becker's Comic Art in America was published in 1959(Simon and Shuster).

"Sam's strip" was created by Mort Walker who incidently was given a record as an artist for having four successful daily strips. Popeye became a world-wide star and especially for TV. In 1963, "Trudy" was introduced by Jerry Marcus. Krazy Kat was revived as a TV animated cartoon series character. Snuffy Smith and Beetle Bailey also were put in TV animated series by 'King." Blondie and the Phantom are syndicated in all continents.



In 1964, Andy Capp by Reg Smythe was introduced as the newest King Features humerus comic strip.

The world of comic strips has only begun. "King" Features is paving the way for the future of the cartoon strips. A grea future lies in wait for the comic strip industry. King Features truly has done it's share to aid the cartooning business. By their 51 years of prosperous revelations, they have truly proven that "KING IS THE PRINCE OF THE COMIC WORLD."



FABULOUS FOURTY

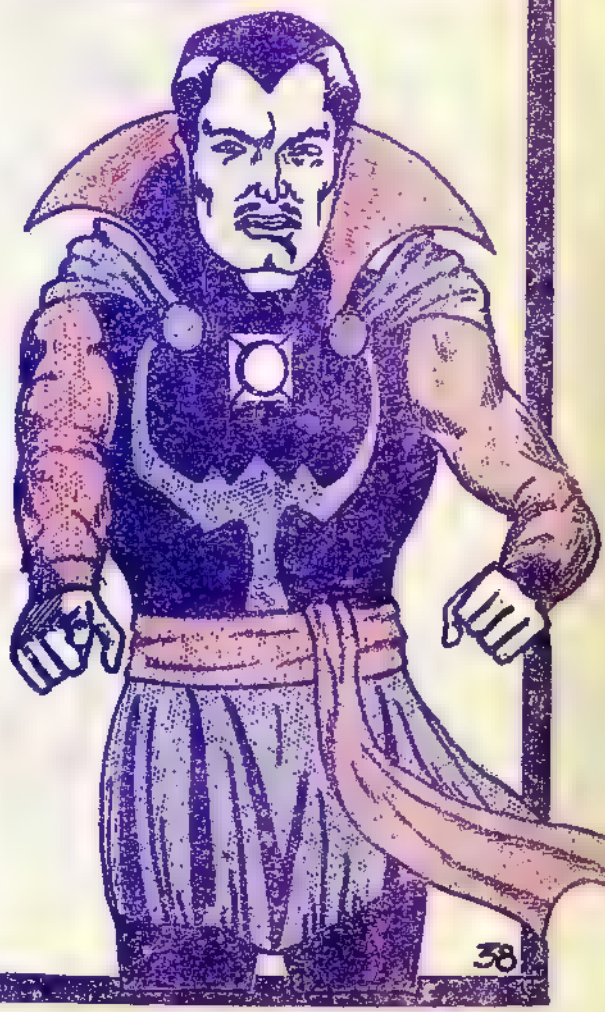
The following list of comic characters is the result of the largest poll since the Alley Awards. It is the expressed opinion of fans reguarding their favorite comic heroes. See below markings for key to character listings...

1. Present ranking number
2. Name of character ranked
3. Number of votes
4. Ranking number last issue
5. Number of Votes last issue

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
1.	SPIDERMAN	141	(2)	107
2.	FLASH	106	(3)	71
3.	CAPTAIN AMERICA	87	(1)	120
4.	FANTASTIC FOUR	85	(7)	50
5.	HAWKMAN	65	(12)	31
6.	AVENGERS	54	(6)	51
7.	BATMAN	51	(21)	12
8.	X-MEN	50	(5)	53
9.	MAGNUS	48	(15)	20
10.	DAREDEVIL	42	(-)	—
11.	GREEN LANTERN	35	(9)	44
12.	JUSTICE LEAGUE	31	(11)	34
13.	ATOM	30	(8)	48
14.	DR. STRANGE	19	(10)	43
15.	THOR	17	(4)	67
16.	IRONMAN	16	(13)	24
17.	DR. SOLAR	15	(19)	14
18.	I-SPY	14	(-)	—
19.	ELONGATED MAN	13	(-)	—
20.	JOHN CARTER	11	(-)	—
21.	TORCH	10	(25)	5
22.	TARZAN	9	(23)	8
23.	The THING	7	(18)	15
24.	ADAM STRANGE	6	(16)	18
25.	SUPERMAN	6	(17)	16
26.	BLUE BEETLE	5	(-)	—
27.	ECLIPSO	5	(21)	12
28.	JAGUAR	5	(22)	10
29.	METAL MEN	5	(27)	3
30.	BLACKHAWKS	4	(-)	—
31.	The DOOM PATROL	4	(20)	13
32.	GIANTMAN	3	(14)	23
33.	HULK	2	(16)	18
34.	MIGHTY SAMPSON	2	(-)	—
35.	SUB-MARINER	2	(17)	16
36.	ANGEL	1	(29)	1
37.	BRAIN BOY	1	(25)	5
38.	CYCLOPS	1	(-)	—
39.	KORAK	1	(16)	18
40.	SGT. FURY	1	(27)	3

LISTING of CHARACTERS That DROPPED from SURVEY:

The FLY, The PHANTOM, MR. FANTASTIC, ATOMIC KNIGHTS, SGT. ROCK, CHALLENGERS, ROBOTMAN, MARK MERLIN and CAVE CARSON...



HALL of FORGOTTEN HEROES !!!

NO. 4

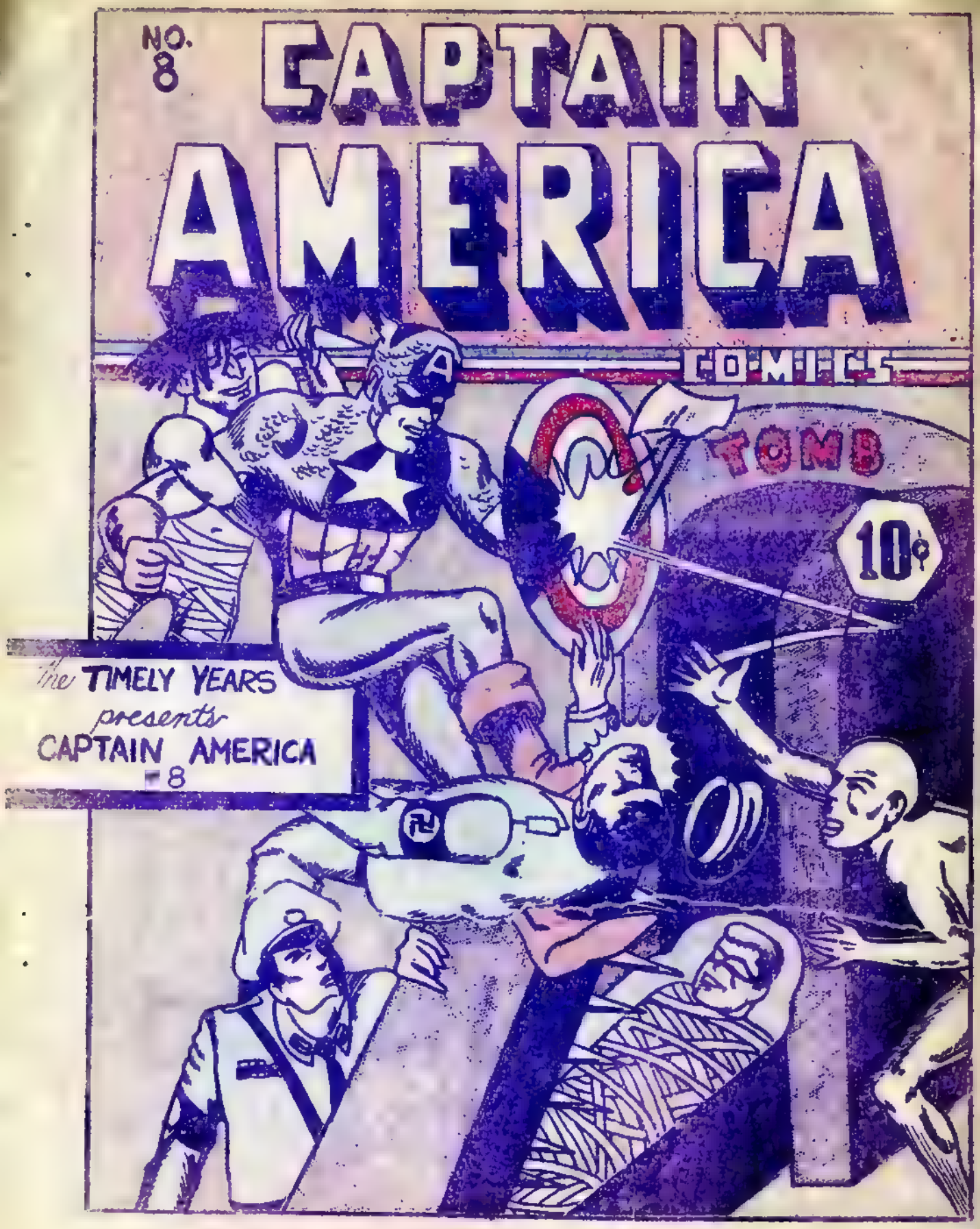
STARMAN

FANTASY HERO'S HALL
OF ACTION COVERS
*2

CAPTAIN AMERICA

NO. 38 MAY

10¢


NO. 8
CAPTAIN AMERICA
COMICS
TOMB
10¢
The TIMELY YEARS
presents
CAPTAIN AMERICA
#8

No. 7
SUPERMAN
10¢
Nov.
Dec.
WORLD'S GREATEST ADVENTURE-STRIP CHARACTER
FANTASY HEROES' HALL of ACTION COVERS * 4 !

STUNTMAN #2

This issue is a true collectors item. Within the pages of this Harvey spectacular, Simon and Kirby portray their best artwork of their career. In one story entitled,Curtain Call For Death,Stuntman uses his well balanced stunt powers to rescue the lives of his dear friends, Don Daring and Sandra Sylvan. Simon and Kirby also did another minor strip in this issue entitled His Highness,The Duke of Broadway.....great artwork!!! Another Stuntman strip soon followed entitled, "The Rescue of Robin Hood". When a mystery author decided to rewrite the film version of Robin Hood...movie stars Don Daring and Sandra Sylvan were led into the adventure that even the fabled champion of Sherwood Forest would have shunned. But Fred Drake, Don Daring's double stepped into the role of Stuntman...and brought things to a fast and furious finish.

This June-July issue 1946 was later reprinted in 1954, both of the Stuntman stories only. They were later printed in Thrills of Tomorrow #20. This costumed hero,Stuntman, was one of the best done heroes of Simon&Kirby!!!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #38

With Syd Shores at the pencils and Vince Alascia at the inks, this issue of Captain America was great. The first story of this May 1944 issue was entitled "Castle of Doom". Captain America and his faithful sidekick, Bucky, pit their own lives against a swarm of Japs who have overpowered a castle which was owned by a 'Death Valley Pete',an old timer. The Human Torch and Toro were soon to follow in their own story entitled "Murder for Profit."

Captain America soonsfollows again battling the Jap coilmen in a story called"Frozen Death."To finish off the issue,Captain America and Bucky appeared in one more story which was quite exciting,"The Peril of the Past."

Capt. America thinks a Dr. Natas is a crooked criminal so he arranges a physical checkup with the doctor to solve the case. The doc soon ties Cap and Bucky down to tables and he says that the 3 of them are re-incarnated.He says that Cap won battles against him in past centuries, but now it was his turn. His threats prove hopeless as Cap and Bucky overpower the mad professor.

SUPERMAN #7

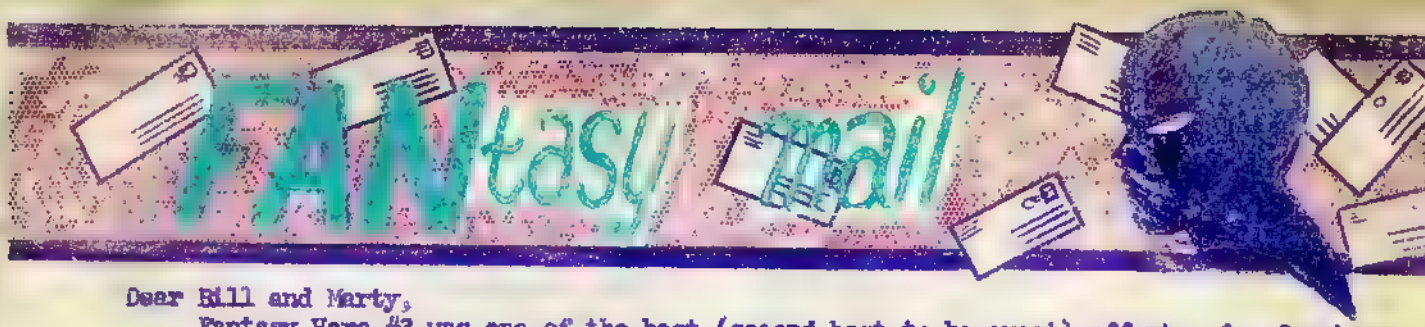
This Nov-Dec 1940 mag had very good stories basically but no super villains come into the scene. Siegel&Shuster join talents to bring great work that was considered excellent in the 40's unfortunately, none of the stories in the whole mag had titles, so they would be quite hard to describe. But the Man of Steel appeared in all 4 of the stories of this issue. The strange thing about Superman, was his uniform. His emblem was quite different than the one he presently has. Another strange thing about the characters in this issue, more mainly is editor Perry White. Perry is the proud owner of a full head of brown hair. The only resemblance this Perry White has with the present one is that they both smoke cigars. Perry White seems to be the only Superman character that aged through the years. Lois Lane hasn't changed at all except that now she's a little bit more feminine. This ish of Superman was interesting.

THE GREEN HORNET #4

The Green Hornet and his faithful companion,Kato appear in 7 short but action packed stories in this #4 issue. Though the artwork was not the tops, the stories which were short, served a very interesting purpose,they seemed very good. Bert Whitman was the artist for the green hornet stories.

When Britt Reid changes to his alter-ego of The Green Hornet, you can always expect plenty of action.

I guess the Green Hornet was so successful in the serials that they decided to carry on a little serial in his own magazine. The Green Hornet was featurin a two part story which started in issue#3 and was continued in the next issue. The secret identity of the famous Green Hornet is at stake as the story in ish#4 opens up, but the Green Hornet is soon relieved of losing his alter-ego by a sudden commotion. All in all, this issue is a fine item in any collection. Green Hornet #4 was printed in May of 1941.



Dear Bill and Marty,

Fantasy Hero #3 was one of the best (second best to be exact) efforts of a fanzine in the history of Fandom. The cover was sensational, and reproduction was great. I actually cried over the fanzine and got it a bit wet when I read the Invincibles strip, and saw the Bird 'turn in his wings'! The Top Ten, which was really the top thirty, was informative although I don't agree with all of them. Bill's tremendous artwork on The IN VINCIBLES and DR. LAW was alone well worth the fourty cents. The plot of the Invincibles was great and packed with lots of action. One thing about your characters though, they all have their stories in and around California. How about some of them going east and fighting other super heroes?!? The article about the original Gray Grasshopper's creater was simply supurb! What is he doing today. Keep up the good work, and keep publishing.

Sincerely,
Fred Landesman

(Fred and his very high comments about Fantasy Hero #3, don't deserve half as much recognition as we should be giving him for his capable assistance in this issue, in his article 'My Trip To DC's!' Fred has helped out greatly in past issues, obtaining all of the information used in past issues about up and coming comic magazines. And since this will be my last chance, I would publically like to thank him---for all his aid!!! Thanks alot Fred, if there were more fans like you around, Comicdom would be the greatest organization on earth!---Bill Dubay)

Dear Bill:

Thanks for sending along FANTASY HERO #3, and COMIC CAPER #1! Although I have not as yet had a chance to read it, I can see that it looks to be one of the best ditto'd zines I've seen---and the layout looks good too. Wish more faneds would take more care in reproduction and assembly like you guys do---issue #3 here, has a good solid feel and appearance...

Best,
Bill Spicer

(Above was a letter we recieved before Bill Spicer had read our last issue. Below is another letter Bill sent after he had read it, and took time out from his busy schedule to write...)

Dear Bill:

I thought FANTASY HERO #3 was an excellent fanzine; I wish now that I had written you a longer LOC on it. I particularly liked the shading technique you used on the IN-VINCIBLES strip---I used to think that HOWARD KELTNER was the 'king' of the shading plate for ditto, but now that I've seen yours---it easily beats his. And your use of red on page 12 and 13 was very effective...

This GRAY GRASSHOPPER article is really wierd; the only piece of info you neglected to include was where Allan Lucas is now! Perhaps if he could be located, he might be persuaded to put the Gray Grasshopper into action again via a litho'd fanzine.

Sincerely,
Bill Spicer

(We appreciate any fanzine editor who takes time out to write a letter to another zine which he feels has potential, and we especially appreciate Bill's writing these last two letters. These, along with the several others we recieve, are a great encouragement! If you haven't as yet picked up a copy of Bill's fine zine, FANTASY ILLUSTRATED, we highly recommend it as one of the best!---Bill Dubay)

Stan Lee asked me to [illegible] for your copy of Fantasy Hero that you sen[illegible]. We're happy that you like our new style Cap so often and have started hun[illegible] on the road of return. As you [illegible] may not know, he'll soon appear in his o[illegible] book, [illegible] starting with issue#59. From there [illegible] he'll [illegible] We were all quite pleased [illegible] your [illegible] of [illegible] results.
We appreciate the kind words & best wishes.

Sincerely,
Flo Steinberg-correspondent to Stan Lee

Dear Bill;

Fantasy Hero #3 was an excellent issue done on Batman. Your cover was beautiful. Your contest was superb. Your Invincibles strip has alley award material. Your artwork on ish#3 was super.

I'm glad that you aren't leaving us for good but will be back with Rudi Franke with FANTASY HEROES HANGOUT.

Good luck;
Margaret Gemignani

(We're glad that you liked issue#3, how's #4? Speaking of Fantasy Heroes Hangout, #1 of Fantasy Heroes' Hangout should be out by the middle of July or if not that soon,a little bit later---don't miss it.)

Dear Bill;

What's this I hear? Why is Fantasy Hero being discontinued?

I'm with you all the way on the Captain America getting his own magazine drive. I plan to run a pin up in Men of Mystery#1(my zine) for Captain America supporters and under it will be a list of names of the people who want Captain America in his own mag.

Here are the comments of mine on your 3rd issue: Mail column was much too short but was great just the same....Wow, your reproduction was great(much better than that in most zines). The Dr. Law cliff-hanger was too short but good. The Lucas' Grasshopper was a nice article....great illos. By yhe way, you were able to show us the Gray Grasshopper but how about Alan Lucas!!!let's see him. Your editors(Gab was Okay....Your villain pin-up was bad....you should try to get Memorich to do it, he's the best on Batman. The Batman articles were great, although too much space was wasted on the hand written one. Maybe you can't draw the Joker but you sure can draw Batman...best art I ever seen in any of your zines. Daredevil pin-up was Okay...though it doesn't take too much talent to draw Daredevil...he's so easy.

Too bad about the Bird, but he was simply a crossover of the Jaguar(exact same origin)and Hawkman for obvious reasons.

Your contest was wow....real nice entries. I should've entered more than one; my hero was peanuts compared to some of the others. I really liked the cover to issue #3...but #4's cover sounds 50 times better. One last comment....I liked Billy De's new costume!!!

Yours;
Jeff Gelb-editor of Men of Mystery

(Thanks for your comments on issue #3. I'll try to get Allan Lucas to do some work for us....he did a short Gray Grasshopper strip in Fantasy Hero Special edition Christmas issue...did you see it? Good luck with your Captain America drive. I certainly hope it's a success...I'm all for him and his own mag.
You better reserve your copy of Fantasy Heroes' Hangout now if you want to see more of us....should be a real fine first issue!!! Good luck with your own zine, Men of Mystery!!!)

Dear Bill:

I want to thank you very much, for sending me your great copy of FANTASY HERO #3 I'll have to admit, you're comic fanzine gets better and better all of the time.

Best of luck:
Richard Jankoski

(We thank you, Richard, for your whole hearted encouraging letters, this issue and last Even a short line or two, such as this fan has written, shows that Fantasy Hero is lived by a few fans, and that's all that counts!!!---Bill Dubay)

Dear Bill,

The best part of FANTASY HERO #3 of course, was your fine strip. Don't get me wrong. I'm not buttering you up for anything, you're one of the best farnish artists, yes, but you're still not quite good enough yet, to be a pro artist. Glad to know that I am among the recommended fanzines, and I hope thatI'll be able to work myself up to a four star in the near future. Although your offset cover didn't come out quite right, and though it is still nice, I'd much rather see the strips than that Batman illustration of yours. You could have done the Batman on ditto, but copying the dailys of him wouldn't be doing them justice. I'd like to see you reprint at least a portion of one of the famous "Golden Age" covers. Or even better, some of the innerds. That Batman thing by Barry Bauman was a nice sort of editorial thing. I think that the cliffhanger idea is great and even better than Ronn's FOX, because he is a real super hero. One thing I wish you'de do tho make the cliffhanger segments a bit longer cause unless the story is awfully short, that is going to be just too long of a strip with too much space between episodes. Devote about four pages each to a cliffhanger! I liked the Cartoonist's Corner---how about having some of Fandom's artists as well as Pro and almost Pro. I liked the cover of the month, but I just realized something---how can there be a hero of the month, etc., when there's two months between issues? Are we missing out on some sups? I still don't understand much about Johnny Fulmen, but why ask about insignificant things like who he is? Where, what why, and when, etc. etc.! Give him a better costume, and lets have more GRASSHOPPER, GHOST, FLAG, SCEPTRE and WIRE!!!

SLFN:
John Chambers

(Frankly John, after seeing later issues of your fanzine, FANtastic, I would give it a four star rating. Although it currently contains no strip or original characters, you have the best in comic inside information. Your listings of comic fanzines are the best in any fanzine. I,personally use your zine as the place where I pick the fanzineas I wish to order. Although there have been a number of fans which have stated that they like Dr. Law prefered to The FOX, Ronn Foss is currently running in his fanzine for editors, DATELINE: COMICDOM, I prefer The Fox because he is a greater mystery figure, and has that 'certain Foss technique'!!! As for the inside info on Johnny Fulmen, see FANTASY HERO #1. It was a mighty poor issue---mighty poor, so you ought to be able to pick up a copy from almost any fan---Bill Dubay)

Dear Bill,

I just loved Fantasy Hero #3! The greatest comic fanzine ever published. May I suggest that you keep up your boasting---it has a certain effect on many readers, as MARVEL has also!!!

Sincerely:
Allen Wahl

(No comment---Bill Dubay)

Dear Bill,

Many thanks for your fine lot of zines. They arrived in great shape, and I was glad to get them. So many new zines are always coming out that it's impossible to keep up with them all---so as it turns out, I miss some of the better ones, such as the ones you sent. Your new COMIC CAPER was exceptionally well planned and turned out to be a neat little package. The larger zines seem more appealingbut I like to see a change of pace

every now and then. I once put out a one-half sized issue (two really) of KOMIX ILLUSTRATED, as give aways!

Sincerely;
Bill White

(Many thanks to Bill White and his taking time out to write this fine letter of comment for us. Here is another great example of a typical active fan, who has done so much for fandom, asking for nothing, but giving everything he has!---Bill Dubay)

Dear Bill,

Just got the third ish of Fantasy Hero, and all I can say is WOW! That Invincibles strip was really something! Actually, it was one of the best battles in ages---In the regular prozines they have heroes 'taking turns' fighting the villains, but you had each and every damn one of them mixing it up at once. The story was a bit confused by the poor reproduction ditto gives, which made it a bit hard to tell the heroes from the villains, but then, aren't real battles always confused?

I think if one compared fanzines with pro comics, ALTER EGO would be related to GOLD KEY, STAR STUDDED COMICS to DC, and FANTASY HERO to MARVEL! You also produce a tale filled with sound and fury. And every issue gets better by leaps and bounds.

I do wish though, that you'de leave out those stupid crossword puzzles. I've nothing against a good crossword puzzle---but the essence of a good puzzle is that you could, (in theory) figure it out by using only horizontal and vertical. There are also supposed to be certain symmetry properties, which I'm not enough of a purest to appreciate. But McGeehan's puzzles have too many blind alleys. Anybody can drop down from an O to an A there, with corresponding clue "Guardian's Home Planet", but unless the A is a part of another word it isn't really fair to do so!!!

Best;
Al Kuhfeld

(Another typical example of an active fan artist-writer, donating some of his precious time to write LOC's for Fantasy Hero. Besides his terrific GOD COMICS, Al is also artist for a certain College Magazine, wherein he has featured satires on Betty and Veronica, and the Archie group. Many thanks for the wonderful comments on the last ish, Al---Bill)

Dear Marty and Bill-

Just recieved Fantasy Hero #3; VERY effective cover...so who did the illustration? Now, don't give me that Bob Kane jazz- the right hand of Batman clearly points to an amateur. Regardless, cover IS extra fine; would be worth the price of the issue alone if it weren't for the darkened strip reprints, an obvious result of extreme black area.

I'd rather see an Editorial, per se, used for observances/ opinion of a publisher rather than simply preview of what's within---which will be obvious upon the turn of a page...

...WHICH I DID, HASTILY---

Your art is improving; use of tone is very good, tho perhaps a bit satiated-suggest more variety! I expected something different for Kelez's first review; the Batman has been done too many times---including Alter Ego #4! Much appreciate the inside dope of the original Gray Grasshopper---Is Lucas really over 40??? McGeehan's 'appeal' is unfornately, as many famnish things, much too idealistic to be practical...this may also be true in the case of DATELINE---hence I join the 'die-hards'; Godspeed, John/Tom---Will review Fantasy Hero in D;; Just wanted to get off personal comments as I feel your work has potential---I don't bother to express considered critique on some!!!

Sincerely;
Ronn Foss

(I believe that Ronn Foss who's letter appears above, has had varied feelings about this magazine, Fantasy Hero. At times, I believe that he has liked it, while at times where he has printed comments about it in his own magazine, Dateline Comicdom, he has expressed his opinions rather freely. His criticism was much needed in past issues, so may I suggest to all zine publishers---listen to what Ronn has to say...he is usually correct in his assumptions. I believe that Mr. Foss has been insulted more than once by rather unwarranted remarks I have made in this letter column in past issues. Other fans also may have had rash feelings toward me for remarks I made about their letters in past issues,

so I would like to take this time to publically apologize publically, to any fans whom I have affended by rather conceited remarks. I realize now that instead of these remarks being satirical or humerous, they served the purpose of making me look like an idiot!!!---Bill Dubay)

Dear Bill,

Well, your words were certainly prophetic! I really enjoyed Fantasy Hero #3! It is undoubtedly the best fanzine this year, and probably the best of all time!!!

Sincerely,
Allen Wahl

(I'm pleased to find that many of the readers' reactions were generally the same as Al's was! I don't think that FH #3 was one of the best zines this year, I can name at least ten others that topped Fantasy Hero---But if you and other fans really liked the last issue, maybe it will show up on the 1964 Alley Talley---we'll see...Thanks for your kind comments---Bill)

Dear Bill,

Inclosed is 40¢ for the best fanzine I have read to date---Fantasy Hero! I'm not going to tell you how good it was because it would take up too much of your precious time! But I will tell you that I love all your characters----Please keep up the good work, your characters are the best in fandom.

Best of Luck,
Jerry Vasily

Dear Bill,

The cover of Fantasy Hero #3 was MAGNIFIQUE! I'll have to state that it was better than a lot of Professional comics covers. The INVINCIBLES was great---as was everything else. My only complaint was that the BATMAN article was not long enough. However, the lowdown on the Batman Serial was better than the two-parter in SCREEN THRILLS ILLUSTRATED! In the whole, your issue was GREAT!

Sincerely,
Allen Logan

(Many thanks for your thoughtful words, Al! But I do believe that you exagerate a little when you say that the Batman Serial article was better than that in the pro magazine, STI! It is almost impossible for a comic FAN to beat a PROFESSIONAL at his own game. Anyway---glad to hear that you like the issue in general...---Bill)

Dear Bill:

FANTASY HERO #3 was by far the best issue you have ever produced! The reproduction was excellent! Now on to the contents...The Invincibles strip was GREAT!!! The story started strong, and this time stayed that way. I still don't know who was who---that's probably what made it so great!!! Your Art has IMPROVED TREMENDOUSLY!!!!!!! All the panels were distinct with lots of action. What really did it was your excellent shading. This added a perfect background and atmosphere. Pages eight and nine of the strip were better illustrations than have appeared in ANY pro comic. Those dots and integrated colors made the scenes jump right off the page!!! Yes, you captured with your pen, a moonlight night on the sea coast. MY COMPLIMENTS!

Onward.....Illo of Batman - very WOW! Daredevil Illo - double WOW-WOW!!!! Now to the Batman article. The illustrations were great, but the lettering was tremendous. OK, now that I have inflated your ego, let's go to the writing. What was written, was an outline to an outline on Batman. I think you must have been disappointed at Barry for this. You waited so long, only for a half page of type-written vagueness. Not one ounce of depth. Here is a bigger hat for you. Now listen---You took this nothing of an article, and saved Barry's 'words' by printing it out - and presto, a three page article of magnificance. Also art was tough enough, real Kane, oh I mean KEEN!!!

The Joker was all right, just all right. Master comics - Orbits ville! Dr. Law strip was the beginning of I don't know what? No story presented. Those are my evaluations of your third issue of Fantasy Hero. One of the best magazines out!!!!!

Sincerely;
Steven Kelez

(Although when Steve left San Francisco, and moved to Talmage, California, Marty and I thought we had gotten rid of a good competetior for old comic hunting, here in the city, but actually we were losing a good and faithful friend---as you can see by his generous evaluations of our last issue. I think you might enjoy Steve's article on Dick Tracy, this issue. He is a good writer with lots of talent.---Bill)

Dear Bill;

The cover of FH #3 was well done, many thanks to the useage of photo offset. Thanks to the artwork, the contents page was well done. Unless artwork is used though, a contents page would look like those used in HERO, and the current issue of Jeddak, who emulate those of the science fiction pubs of the early fiftys.

'Tales from the Tomb had nothing wrong with it. INVINCIBLES was a well drawn strip, with a good plot---very interesting. I especially like the part where a good guy, GREEN SCEPTRE, turns into a baddie, DR. SATAN!!! That was a nice bit of realism to have the BIRD bite the dust as well. The illustrations of Batman, Daredevil, and Batman again were well done also, considering the type of reproduction used! Those three pages with Batman illos were all nicely done; the printing instead of typing was done for several reasons, in my opinion; 1. To be different, look neater, and copy KI #2! 2. To draw out the material to three pages. The article on the first Batman serial was well done. Tho I had a pressbook on the same, at one time. Lost it though, by loaning it to the thief of Hoboken, George Paul---along with a copy of XERO #4! And although I had already knew what it was about, it was again interesting to refresh my memory. Also, pressbooks, reviews, and the film are or can be as different as day and night.

The Joker illustration Master Comic were both well done, as usual for your great zine. The first chapter of DR. LAW was okay, but I don't particularly care for cliffhangers in zines, unless they're monthly!!! The open letter was excellent, as if I couldn't say anything else for it, being the co-author. Since my letter was in it, I won't complain about your LOC column not being eight pages long like the loc column in Comic World News. Info, correct info, is always welcomed; so the 'Special Info' and 'Direct Line from the Pros' columns were well worth reading!!!

The printing in this issue was at least all readable and of very fine quality; well worth the expense of the duplicator, if you print enough issues to pay for it, in the long run. At least now you have a reason for putting out more issues in a shorter period of time. Since the more you use it, the faster you depriciate the cost of it!!!

Sincerely;
John McGeehan

(Here is another typical example of a great fan---!!! For the past three issues, John McGeehan has given his time to make Fantasy Hero, a better fanzine. His letters, as well as every other letter recieved is taken into consideration, and tried out at least, by us the editors. When John said that he didn't like the reproduction on our first issue, we immediatly went out and bought a decent duplicator, so that you the fans would enjoy our magazine a little more. And since this will be the last issue, I am really wondering how many of you really have enjoyed this comic fanzine over this past year...? I only hope that you won't forget this magazine, for I know that I will never forget the memorable year I spent producing for appreciative comic collectors, a fanzine that they considered worth their time and trouble to obtain and read. Although I won't completely be leaving comic fandom, I presume that this will be the last letter I ever answer in a LOC column. So instead of rushing,through this hastily, I want to take my time and thank everyone who has supported this fanzine to the status which it now stands. Remember, all comic fanzines need your support to be good. I recieved it from you, as a new editor, when I first started out, and I want you to give it to all other 'new zinepubbers', whom you consider well worth your time to compliment to. To everyone who has ever purchased a copy of FANTASY HERO---Thank You! ---Bill Dubay)

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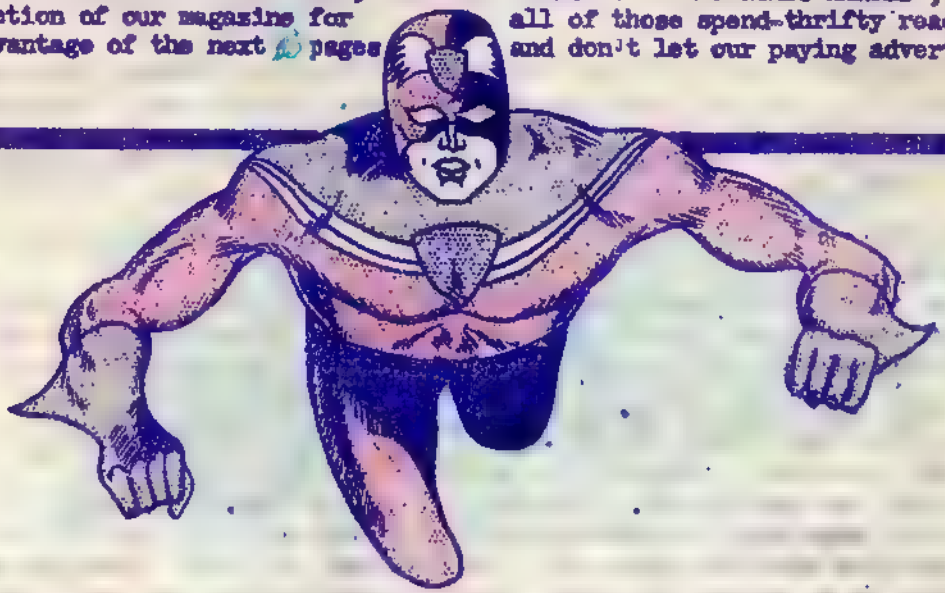

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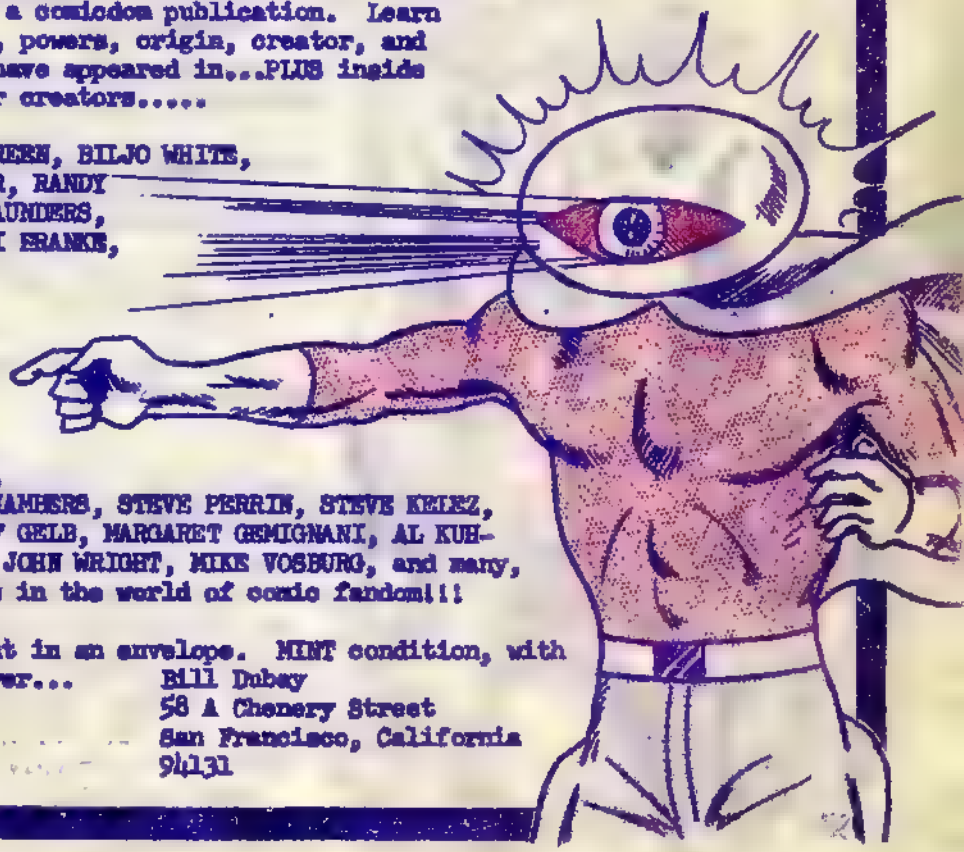

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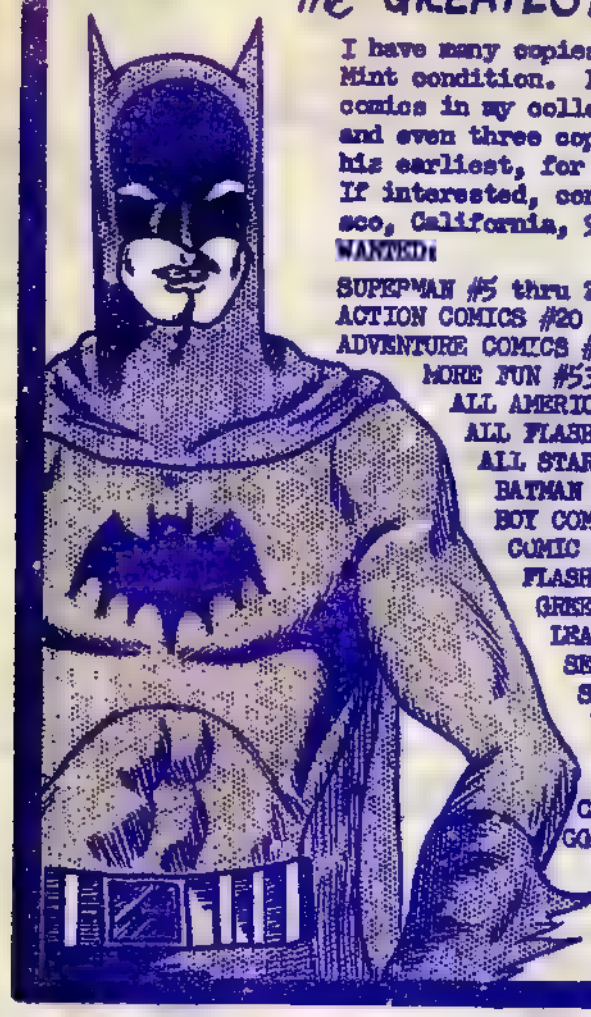

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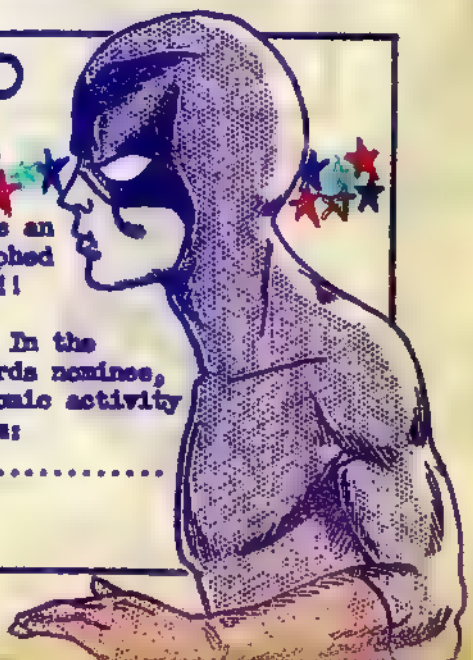

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The Comic Hero is edited and published by Jerry Hasson. For each copy you want send 50¢ to:

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Write to: GLEN JOHNSON, CROWPOINT, NEW MEXICO, 87313.....

fantasy heroes' hangout

Throughout this final issue of Fantasy Hero, you may have spotted several notices to the effect that this magazine will be discontinued completely. That is not entirely true. Fantasy Hero will live partially in a new and bigger fanzine...FANTASY HEROES' HANGOUT!!! For the first time in Comicdom History two comic fanzines come together to give you one big fanzine. All subscribers to Fantasy Hero will be recieving all future issues of Fantasy Heroes' Hangout. Each issue will have a four-colored litho cover, with at least fifty big pages. The editors of Fantasy Hero, AND Heroes' Hangout will do their utmost to bring you the quality they have tried to assure with each issue of their single magazines.

FANTASY HEROES HANGOUT #1 is NOW ready and available for 10¢ from: Marty Arbunich, 60 Gladys Street, San Francisco, Calif.

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